



PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN



*A forum for natural history*

# The Linnean Society of London

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## WHO WE ARE

- A Society that embraces the entire sweep of the natural world, encompassing science, history and art
- A Fellowship that ranges from leading professional scientists to amateur naturalists, artists and historians
- An historic institution with a modern focus on biodiversity, evolution, taxonomy, science policy, conservation and sustainability

## WHAT WE DO

- **Publish** three academic journals and other quality publications
- **Host meetings, conferences and events** for scientists and the general public, including free lunchtime and evening talks
- **Produce free education resources** from primary school to tertiary level and beyond
- **Award grants and medals** for excellence in biological research
- **Collaborate and communicate** with the scientific community, government and international organisations to address issues facing the natural world

## WHAT WE HAVE

- A world renowned library and collections of plant and animal specimens, books, letters, portraits and art including items collected by some of history's most famous scientists
- A network of specialists: biologists, botanists, zoologists, microbiologists, mycologists

## WHERE WE CAME FROM

- Founded in 1788, we are the oldest existing society of natural history, and are based in the cultural centre of Burlington House, Piccadilly, London
- Named after the great Swedish naturalist, Carl Linnaeus, who created the binomial naming system (genus and species) for biological classification now used throughout the world. Linnaeus is known as the father of modern natural history and the "prince of botanists"
- At the heart of many scientific and cultural developments relating to our understanding of the natural world, most notably, Charles Darwin's and Alfred Russel Wallace's epoch-making papers on evolution by natural selection were first read at a meeting of the Society

*The Linnean Society is proud of its past, but is equally enthusiastic about its future and is keen to embrace all those with an interest in the natural world*

# The Linnean Society

## Annual Report 2015

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Materials from the Linnaean manuscripts and portfolio

## The President's Review of the Year 2015

**2**015 has certainly been a year of change and transition, right throughout the Society. I was delighted to take over the reins from the careful hands of Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS PPLS in May, while the newly elected Treasurer-Elect, Deborah Wright, has been shadowing the current Treasurer, Professor Gren Lucas OBE, during his last term of Office.

There has been significant change on the staff front, as various fixed term contracts came to an end with the completion of the Linnaean Manuscripts project, entirely funded by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, and lead by the Librarian, Lynda Brooks. We have sadly had to say goodbye to Dr Isabelle Charmantier (Manuscripts Specialist & Archivist), Helen Cowdy and Naomi Mitamura (Project Conservators) and Andrea Deneau (Digitisation Project Manager), as well as to Tom Kennett, our Smith Biographer, who has completed his manuscript on the Society's founder, Sir James Edward Smith. The Education Resources Coordinator, Mair Shepherd, completed her 1-year contract to develop and launch the three A-level modules (Funky Pigeons, Brilliant Barnacles, Murderous Plants) in collaboration with the Charles Darwin Trust. There have also been two changes in the permanent staff: we were sorry to see the departure of our other two Toms: Tom Simpson, Events & Communications Manager, and Tom Helps, Room Hire Manager & Membership Assistant.

However, we are delighted to welcome three new faces, namely Tatiana Franco, who has ably taken on the Room Hire & Membership role, and Alicia Fernandez, who is now trailblazing Events & Communications, while Ross Ziegelmeier is enthusiastically leading the BioMedia Meltdown Project for Key Stage 3 students, generously funded by John Lyon's Charity, and which attracted a wide range of excellent entries for the first competition on the topic of evolution.

Alicia's first major challenge was to retrieve the Society's website which unfortunately went down in the autumn due to liquidation of the provider. In addition to providing interesting information on the Society and its events, the website provides the link to the Society's much-viewed Online Collections which, with the inclusion of the outputs from the Linnaean Manuscripts Project, will contain almost a quarter of a million images, comprising almost 13TB of storage; there were over 4.827 million successful page requests in 2015. The Linnaeus Link project, under Elaine Charwat and Lynda Brooks' diligent leadership,

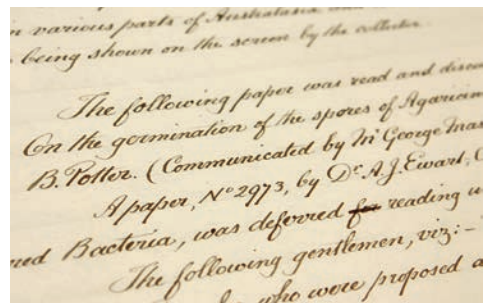


Linnean Society President  
Professor Paul Brakefield FRS

has gone from strength-to-strength, with materials from the State Library Berlin and the Hunt Institute's Strandell Collection being added to the Linnaeus Link union catalogue.

You will see from the Public Engagement, Heritage and Education sections of this Annual Report that the Society has been hugely active in these areas, vigorously promoting knowledge on all aspects of the natural world through the Society's unique and historic Collections, connecting with hundreds of individuals and groups, from Primary school children (with Hazel Leeper spearheading the Loan Box scheme) to adults in retirement.

The Programmes Committee, led by Dr Malcolm Scoble, put together a wide range of events, with lunchtime and evening talks as well as day meetings, encompassing art and science, including a debate on species conservation, and lectures on next-generation biodiversity discovery, the impact of climate change, and an uplifting presentation on bird song with performance by the virtuoso violinist Paul Barritt (see full listing on p. 44). Professor Simon Hiscock kindly hosted the much-enjoyed *Conversazione* at the University of Bristol Botanic Garden, while Geoffrey Munn provided masterful entertainment for the Christmas lecture. The Society's Taxonomy & Systematics Committee Plenary session on *The Joy of Discovering the Natural World* was organised jointly with the Systematics Association, and provided an ideal forum for Channel 4 to film a young female taxonomist speaking to the present-day Society—a snippet of which they incorporated into a programme on Beatrix Potter, whose paper on the germination of fungal spores was read at the Society in 1897.



Beatrix Potter's paper as listed in the Society's Minutes

In November, the Society's Officers, Council, Committees and interested Fellows and staff gathered in the Meeting Room to review the Society's Strategic Plan. This provided a stimulating discussion and suggestions for potential new initiatives such as *Young Linneans* and a more formal regional structure. The latter will be piloted in Wales under the enthusiastic lead of Professor Anthony Campbell. The Treasurer took the opportunity to review his enormously productive 20 years in office, together with the Financial Controller Priya Nithianandan, having put the Society's finances on a firm footing, including attracting around £3m in grant funding to catalogue, conserve and digitise many of the Society's wonderful collections. The Treasurer is to be applauded for his unwavering support and strategic vision. The Society needs to seek further grant funding for the many projects-in-waiting. One approach for raising funds for conserving specific books came to fruition at the end of 2015: AdoptLINN, a book adoption scheme developed by Deputy Librarian Elaine Charwat with input from the Society's Conservator Janet Ashdown, was launched in December. The Collections



Committee, diligently chaired by Dr John David, is developing a Five-Year Strategy, and is pleased to welcome a new curator, Glenn Benson, of the Victoria & Albert Museum, to curate the Society's many artefacts.

The Society provides grants for scientific research, especially in the field of taxonomy and systematics, both through the Systematics Research Fund (jointly with the Systematics Association) and through bequests from Fellows, for example Anne Sleep and Percy Appleyard, as detailed on p. 24. The recognition of excellence in the field of natural history is another important aspect, with medals and awards being made at the Anniversary Meeting in May.

The Society continues to collaborate on events/tours with the other Societies around the Courtyard, namely the Geological Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Royal Astronomical Society and the Royal Academy of Arts, especially on Open House, which this year drew record numbers (>1,200 to the Linnean Society alone, thanks to Victoria Smith's organisation), and the Joseph Cornell Exhibition. It cannot be too strongly stressed how important it is to have this cultural hub, open to all, in the middle of Piccadilly—and we look forward to developing further collaborative initiatives in future; indeed plans are well underway for tours on International Women's Day 8 March 2016.

The Society would like to acknowledge its trusty team of volunteers, who willingly contribute their considerable expertise on various aspects of the Society's collections and archives and support Society events throughout the year: namely Gina Douglas (Archivist Emerita and 'master baker'), David Pescod, Pia Wilson, Hazel Marsden, Sheila Meredith and Alan Brafield, and not forgetting Jenny Grundy who generously provides her lovely artwork and sponsorship for cards that are sold to raise funds for the Society, the latest series being in support of *Linnean Learning*.

The Society's research journals continue to provide significant revenues and we salute our dedicated editors, led by Professor Mark Chase FRS. With Dr Peter Hayward's retirement after eight years, we are pleased to welcome Dr Louise Allcock as the new Editor-in-Chief for the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*. The Society is deeply indebted to Peter for his dedication and commitment to the *ZJLS*, which has gone from strength to strength under his editorship, and greatly appreciates that Peter will continue his input into the Society's *Synopses*, which he has edited since 2002. We need also to applaud Leonie Berwick, Special Publications Manager, for her ongoing innovations with *PuLSe* and *The Linnean*, in addition to editing the Smith Biography and generally providing creative input into the Society's marketing materials.



Thus, the Society is vibrant and I am looking forward to my term at the Presidential helm.

**Professor Paul Brakefield PLS**

## Public Engagement, Heritage and Education

### HERITAGE: PRESERVATION AND ACCESS

#### *Projects Review*

##### Linnaean Manuscripts Cataloguing, Conservation and Digitisation Project

This large and complex project, over two years, and entirely funded by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, was completed during 2015. The cataloguing comprises five strands:

- **LINNAEUS PATER MANUSCRIPTS:** comprising all the manuscripts written by Carl Linnaeus (1707–78)
- **LINNAEUS FILIUS MANUSCRIPTS:** comprising all manuscripts from Carl Linnaeus the Younger (1741–83)
- **MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORS' MANUSCRIPTS:** consisting of manuscripts which were sent to Linnaeus by other authors, including foreign correspondents and his own students
- **THE LINNAEAN PORTFOLIO:** which includes artwork sent to or collected by Linnaeus. Some of them still have pin holes in the four corners where they were attached to his walls.
- **COLLECTION HISTORY:** which includes all the James Edward Smith folders, lists, transcripts, and translations of some of the Linnaean manuscripts.



Linnaeus' raccoon Sjupp, from the Linnaean portfolio

Within these five areas, the manuscripts were catalogued to item level on the archival management system CALM, and to ISAD(G) international standards of cataloguing. All manuscripts now have a reference number, which will be of invaluable help to staff and researchers in locating these manuscripts and also in referring to them in future publications. The metadata (reference number, title, author, description) will be accessible via the images on the Linnean Society's website. Conservation of the Linnaean Manuscripts was completed at the end of 2015. Conservation book binder Tony Bish completed re-binding a selection of the bound manuscripts and Project Conservators Naomi Mitamura and Helen Cowdy successfully completed their contracts at the end of May and September respectively. Staff conservator Janet Ashdown continued working on the project, conserving the remaining manuscripts



and making folders and storage boxes. Andrea Deneau managed to complete the digitisation of all the manuscripts before she went on maternity leave in mid-June. Some 30,000 images of the Linnaean Manuscripts have been created, and it is anticipated that these will be available online in early 2016.

The Linnaean Manuscripts Project team put their experience to good use when in April they organised a two-day workshop entitled *From Cabinet to Internet: Digitising Natural History and Medical Manuscripts*. The Society is undoubtedly a strong player in this field and it is planned to hold such workshops at regular intervals to enable the many interested parties to come together and share their experience and knowledge.

**Sir James Edward Smith Biography**—see *Special Publications*

### **Percy Sladen Memorial Fund Material**

By tradition, the Percy Sladen Memorial Fund has always been based in the Linnean Society, with the Society appointing one of the five Trustees. Recent growing interest in the records of past grant recipients has highlighted the need to create electronic records for those grantees. This task is now nearing completion, with available electronic records already transferred and only a small section of records still needing to be input.

### **The Linnaeus Link Project and Union Catalogue**

2015 has been another successful year for the project and the Union Catalogue, which has grown steadily to contain over 11,700 de-duplicated public records from 14 contributing Partners. It was a great coup for the Society to welcome the State Library Berlin (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Preussischer Kulturbesitz) as a fully contributing Partner—another major European national library to join the project in addition to the British Library. On 30 April, the first 91 public records went live, and have now increased to 166. When joining the project, important Linnaean items held by the State Library were re-catalogued with special attention to important copy-specific details, and Soulsby numbers were allocated to produce these records for the Union Catalogue. As a result, these important Linnaean holdings are now visible in their full international bibliographical context for the first time. One example of these rich Linnaean holdings is the naturalist and explorer Reinhold Forster's personal copy of Linnaeus's *Flora Lapponica* (1737), which Forster received from one of Linnaeus' students. Dr Katrin Böhme, Curator of Rare Books, has estimated that there are around 700 Linnaean titles in total held by the State Library waiting to be added to the catalogue for the benefit of researchers and Partners worldwide. This demonstrates once again how the project and the Union Catalogue transform institutions by helping to unlock their collections, as well as benefitting researchers. We were also delighted to welcome the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh to our growing number of Partners.

There is much cataloguing going on behind the scenes, and we hope that they will soon be in a position to contribute their first records to the Union Catalogue.

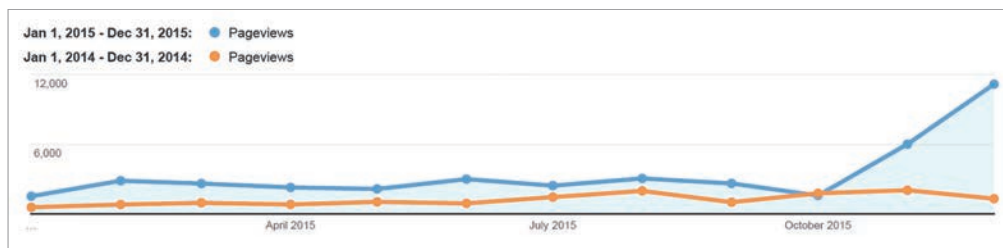


(LEFT) The new Rare Books Reading Room of the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Preussischer Kulturbesitz, where the Library's Linnaean collections can be consulted. © Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Preussischer Kulturbesitz; (RIGHT) The Linnaeus Link article in *Bibliotheksmagazin*

Another major new collection waiting to be unlocked in that way is a very special one—the Strandell Collection at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation (Carnegie Mellon University). The Hunt Institute is one of the founding members of the Linnaeus Link project, and it is a great pleasure to welcome them now as fully contributing Partners, bearing such rich gifts. The Strandell Collection is amongst the largest Linnaean collections in the world, and it includes approximately 3,000 volumes. The Institute acquired the collection in 1968 from Birger Strandell (1901–93), a Stockholm physician and descendant of Linnaeus who had built a private collection of Linnaean materials over most of his lifetime. As the former Hunt Institute director Gilbert S Daniels reported in the introduction to a 1976 *Taxon* article: *For secondary material such as biographical works, pamphlets, broadsides, reviews, announcements, and several thousand clippings about Linnaeus and his students, the Strandell Collection has no equal.* We look forward to working closely with the Hunt Institute to see this great collection take its rightful place in the bibliographic history of Linnaeana!

The Union Catalogue had over 41,200 page views by nearly 7,000 users during the year, a dramatic increase from last year's 14,000 page views by 3,381 users, clear evidence for the impact and relevance of the Union Catalogue.

And the upward trend is continuing, as can be seen from the graph below:



The most numerous visits were from the UK, closely followed by the US, and then Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Spain, Brazil and India.

All major harvesting problems have been resolved, and by successfully overcoming problems caused by hugely diverse individual practices and systems, the Union Catalogue has become very 'intelligent' and robust, a great position for acquiring new Partners and more records. This success is in no small part due to the Society's IT consultants 67 Bricks, who have always been incredibly astute and quick to help.

The 2015 Partners' Meeting was deferred to spring 2016. It had been agreed that closer links with the European Botanical and Horticultural Libraries Group (EBHL) would be mutually beneficial, as there is much overlap in member institutions, collections, interests and aims. Closer links should raise the profile of both groups and associated projects. Therefore, the next Partners' Meeting will take place in conjunction with the EBHL Meeting 6–9 April 2016; Wednesday 6 April will be exclusively dedicated to Linnaeus Link. The meeting will be hosted by the project's recent Partners, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

A Wikipedia article about the Linnaeus Link project has now been written and published ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linnaeus\\_Link\\_Project](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linnaeus_Link_Project)), which will hopefully further contribute to raising its profile. A feature-length article about Linnaeus Link will be published in February 2016 in the *Bibliotheksmagazin*, the newsletter, magazine and proceedings of the German national libraries in Berlin and Munich. Its print-run is over 8,000 copies, and is distributed to more than 90 libraries across the German-speaking world, to bibliophiles and the media, as well as to political, scientific and funding bodies. The article was written jointly by Katrin Böhme and Deputy Librarian Elaine Charwat. In November the Natural History Museum, London, kindly sponsored the digitisation of the 1907 edition of the Basil Soulsby catalogue. Both the 1907 and 1933 editions are now available online in the Biodiversity Heritage Library.

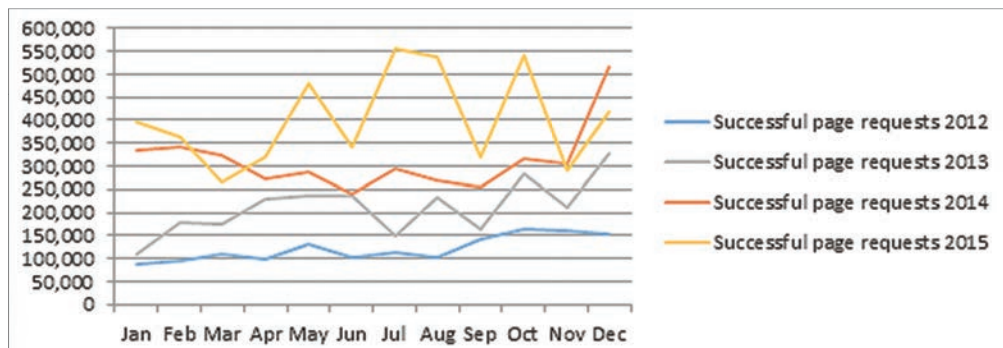
A 'Donate' button was enabled for the project's webpages on the Society's website, and so far £250 has been received in donations. We would like to express our sincerest thanks to those generous individuals for supporting the project. We will keep exploring more options to ensure the continuing success story of the Linnaeus Link project and Union Catalogue!

**The works of Carl Linnaeus and his legacy at your fingertips: [www.Linnaeuslink.org](http://www.Linnaeuslink.org)**

## Linnaean Online Collections Web Statistics 2015

The Society's Online Collections currently contain over 206,100 image files, taking up around 11.5TB of data storage. This number will grow by ca. 31,200 images when the images from the Linnaean Manuscripts project (entirely funded by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation) are added in early 2016, bringing the overall amount of stored data up to 13TB. The EPrints 3 online platform is provided and hosted by the University of London Computer Centre (ULCC), and currently uses the Universal Viewer (UV) as developed by the Wellcome Trust. Since July 2015, secure digital storage and curation is provided by Arkivum/100 through ULCC.

The statistics below show the contact figures for the Society's digitised collections:



The total number of successful page requests continues its upward trend. In 2015, there were over 4.827 million successful page requests. This increase reflects the continuing growth of digital content made freely available online by the Society—this year's addition, the Linnaean Annotated Library, being a particularly rich and complex collection. Numerous images from the Online Collections were requested during the year by researchers for use in scientific articles or books, or for educational use. New platform developments are being planned in collaboration with ULCC and the Society's Curators to include important additional scientific data, and to make the Online Collections more accessible, flexible, versatile and efficient.

## AdoptLINN

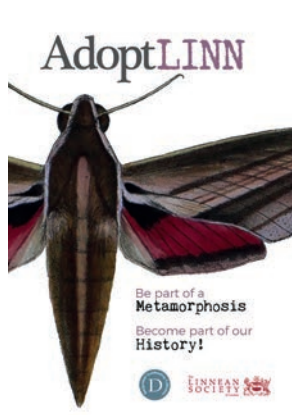
An inaugural adoption scheme was approved by the Collections Committee and AdoptLINN was launched towards the end of the year. It is a great opportunity to promote the Society's collections, to fundraise for important conservation work which cannot be included in bigger projects, and, most importantly, to allow Fellows and the general public to get up close and personal with the collections.



The Society's collections of specimens, books, manuscripts, artworks and artefacts are of huge historical and scientific importance, and achieved 'Designated Status' in 2014, as awarded by Arts Council England. AdoptLINN aims to support the preservation and use of these outstanding collections in research and outreach, with a view to inspiring and delighting people of all ages. Adopting on behalf of, or in memory of, a special person is a wonderful way to celebrate their passion for natural history. People are invited to join with the Society in its role as custodians of this internationally important collection by adopting some of the most influential and beautiful works in the History of Science, often with a unique provenance.



John Ellis's *An essay towards the Natural History of the Corallines* (1755) in need of conservation



There are three levels of adoption: **Essential**, **Highlight** and **Treasure**, and one item is usually matched with just one adopter. Each adoption level and fee reflects not only importance or rarity, but also the conservation needs of an item; typical repairs needed for books include hinge and spine repair, re-backing, re-sewing and page repairs. There is a list of items in urgent need of conservation, but people are also invited to get in touch if a particular item in the Society's collections means a lot to them. The scheme is a great opportunity to be part of a metamorphosis—and to become part of the Society's history. Details can be found on the Society's website or by contacting the Library.

## Other Conservation and Digitisation

In addition to project work, the staff conservator, Janet Ashdown, is also responsible for the general collections and in 2015, she repaired 30 books from the Library.

The portrait of Percy Sladen (1849–1900) that hangs in the Meeting Room was returned following its renovation by Amanda Paulley—the canvas was relined, mounted on a new stretcher and a previous poor repair fixed, and the whole then surface-cleaned and re-varnished; the Society would like to recognise the generosity of the Trustees of the Percy Sladen Memorial Fund which met the costs of this conservation work.

Under the guidance of the incoming Curator of Artefacts, Glenn Benson, the medals currently housed in the Iron Chest are being moved to more suitable accommodation.

### Loans to Other Organisations

The John Lewin watercolour *A newly discovered animal of the Derwent* [Tasmanian Tiger/Thylacine] was loaned in November 2015 to Tate Britain for their exhibition *Art and Empire* in the Linbury Galleries, which explores the relationship between art and empire in British history, from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. The exhibition runs until March 2016. Arrangements were completed for the loan to the Science Museum of Robert Brown's microscope, through which he first observed in 1827 what would later be named Brownian motion while examining pollen grains. The Science Museum exhibition is entitled *Einstein's Legacy*, and will run until November 2016.

In addition to loaning items, the Society also contributes expertise and images. A major contribution of this nature was made to an exhibition in Jakarta in August called *125,660 Specimens of Natural History*, a curatorial project about colonial collections and the environmental transformations they produced, creatively enlightening the work and journeys of Alfred Russel Wallace. The Society is also in talks to provide images as part of an Australian online *Art of Ferdinand Bauer* exhibition at the State Library, New South Wales, and arrangements are in hand for the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh to have images from the Buchanan-Hamilton collection as part of their photo exhibition in conjunction with the Nepal Arts Council in early 2016.



Ferdinand Bauer's original illustration of *Lambertia formosa*

## HERITAGE: NEW DONATIONS AND ACQUISITIONS

During his research for the Smith biography, Tom Kennett tracked down two 18<sup>th</sup>-century paintings (named the Gypsy Girl and the Match Girl) by John Opie and purported to be of Lady Pleasance Smith, wife of Society founder Sir James Edward Smith. Following appropriate due diligence regarding provenance, both portraits were duly purchased with two generous contributions from the Murray Family and Susan Gove FLS, and the vibrant gypsy portrait was unveiled at the Founder's Day lecture.

The sculptor Jane Robbins has generously gifted her bust of Alfred Russel Wallace, which had been shown at the Linnean Society and at the Royal Society during the Wallace anniversary celebrations in 2013. The bust is now on display in the Library Reading Room.

Various archival collections have been kindly donated to the Society, namely:

- diaries of Joseph Omer-Cooper (1893–1972), Professor of Zoology at Rhodes University, South Africa, entomologist and plant hunter
- archives relating to the World Wildlife Fund and the International Union for Conservation of Nature
- material from Paul Cornelius FLS, zoologist (Coelenterata)
- Henry Barlow FLS of Kuala Lumpur, who was in correspondence with Avril Fox FLS for many years, has kindly donated Avril's papers and correspondence
- William Stearn PPLS material
- the bequest of Dr Roger Bamber FLS (20 box files of notes regarding the Synopsis of the British Fauna volume on sea-spiders) also entailed a gift of £5,000 to the Society
- a 19<sup>th</sup>-century three-volume herbarium, horticultural in origin, has kindly been donated by the artist Claire Dalby FLS
- a bequest by John Langford Stacey FLS, comprising three microscopes and three books on microscopy



(Top) John Opie's portrait of Pleasance Smith, 'Gypsy Girl'; (Bottom) Jane Robbins with her sculpture of Alfred Russel Wallace

## EDUCATION RESOURCES: SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

As part of the 'Biology in the Real World' lecture series at the 2015 Association for Science Education (ASE) Conference, the Linnean Society sponsored a lecture by Miranda Lowe, Invertebrates Collections Manager at the Natural History Museum. Miranda's engaging talk 'Beloved Barnacles' discussed Darwin's fascination with barnacles, and his collections with which she now works. The Society did not have a stand at the 2015 Conference, but resources were distributed on our behalf by the Royal Society of Biology.

Our digital resources continue to prove popular online—through our own website, the STEM eLibrary and TES Resources. 2015 saw a bumper year, with over 16,000 views and around 10,000 unique downloads from the external sites alone. We've also sent 250 hard copy poster sets to teachers around the UK and further afield.

The Student Lecture series was once again well attended, with three excellent speakers giving their time to enthuse our visiting students. In March, Jolle Jolles, a doctoral researcher at the University of Cambridge, gave his talk 'Sticklebacks Uncovered' to an enthusiastic audience. Congratulations to Jolle on having since completed his PhD! For our April session, Dr Becki Lawson reprised her popular evening lecture 'Wildlife Disease and Biodiversity'. The autumn saw Jamie Craggs of the Horniman Museum discuss 'Project Coral', a multi-year coral sexual reproduction project run by the Horniman Museum's Aquarium. Unfortunately, Dr Sophie Williams of Bangor University was unable to give her talk 'Conservation Crossroads' in November due to ill health—we wish her all the best for a full recovery.

May 2015 saw Ross Ziegelmeier joining the Education Team as Education Project Officer, working on the BioMedia Meltdown Competition. The project aims to reinvigorate a passion for natural science in the next generation of biologists through creative and artistic pathways. Generously funded by John Lyon's Charity, the project is targeted at KS3 students (aged 11–14) from the boroughs of Brent, Ealing and Hammer-

smith & Fulham. The first phase of the project allowed students to explore and show their understanding of the topic of evolution by producing a related piece of creative media and entering it into the competition. Thus far, the project has engaged with 692 students through workshops that aim to encourage students to submit their own creation. A total of 36 entries were submitted from six different schools. The entries expanded across a range of media that encompassed sculpture, paintings, story writing, video making and even music. Winners, friends and family are invited to celebrate their work and receive prizes at Burlington House on 4 March 2016. Content development is already well underway for the second phase of the project. New and previously participating schools in the aforementioned areas have been





invited to take part in new workshops and activities that will help them to explore and show their understanding of the National Curriculum topic of ecosystems.

A few of the student quotes from the BMM evolution workshops :

*It was the best lesson ever!*  
*I learned loads of stuff, not just about science.*  
*I watch the Discovery channel all the time but this was real.*  
*It was so cool.*

The British Ecological Society Summer School pilot project took place from 20–24 July. This exciting new event saw a group of 50 aspiring first year ecologists from 31 universities head to Malham Tarn Field Centre, to attend a week of lectures, workshops, fieldwork and careers mentoring sessions. The Society sponsored an ‘Introduction to Entomology’ session by Professor Simon Leather of Harper Adams University. Students had the opportunity to carry out practical fieldwork using a variety of sampling methods, and then attempted to identify and classify the specimens they had captured. The session concluded late into the evening upon the release of an insect which had been previously doused in fluorescent powder to demonstrate this tracking method. The Summer School as a whole was very successful, and the Society will continue to be involved in the 2016 sessions.

September saw the Society participate as a part of Open House London, where Ross manned an education activity stand. Visitors took part in an identification activity and left thoughtful feedback to the question ‘Why is classification important?’.



2015 has been another busy year for the education team, and we're looking forward to the next one! One potential project in waiting is re-connecting students with the art of recording nature—to use field diaries and notebooks in the Society's archives (eg Alfred Russel Wallace, Emilia Noel, etc.) to teach and inspire children to make their own, to get 'into the habit of' observing and recording Nature in order to record and protect biodiversity.

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### Treasures Tours

The Treasures Tours were started in November 2013 in their current format, including the Meeting Room, the Library and the Collections Store. They are open to all by prior registration. The tours are run every month if possible, and from 2014 onwards, they were scheduled to follow on from the Lunchtime Lectures, and a suggested donation of £5 was introduced in November 2014 to support the collections. Very positive feedback was received about offering a 'Linnean package'—attending both a Lunchtime Lecture and Treasures Tour—as well as the personal touch of the tours.



By the end of 2015, the Society had welcomed 187 visitors in total—an average of 11 visitors per tour, the group size being 13 maximum due to the restricted space in the Collections Store. Of the 187 visitors, 169 completed our evaluation forms. 47 people described themselves as naturalists or academics, 91 as 'Just interested' and 31 identified themselves as Fellows of the Society. Many people were made aware of the tours through word-of-mouth, many came to other Society events subsequently, and several people joined as Fellows after having attended the Treasures Tours.

The enthusiastic tone of the comments is testament to the positive impact of the tours—a key attraction offered by the Society. The following are just a few examples:

*I felt very privileged to have seen such wonderful things and feel my eyes have been opened somewhat. I came away from the whole morning feeling somehow much more 'civilised'!*

*It was fluent, learned details and stories, friendly and open to questions.*

*I knew nothing about the amazing classifications and the work of [Carl] Linnaeus and [Alfred Russel] Wallace until now.*

Details about the Treasures Tours can be found on the Society's website under events, or by contacting the Library.

## Lectures and Events—see *Appendix 1*

### Student and Other Tours

The most numerous specially arranged tours the Library ran this year were for students from Britain, Europe and beyond—which reflects not only its popularity for this audience, but also the Society’s strategic aim to encourage the next generation of scientists and to inspire young people to develop a passion for Natural History and nature.

This included visits from Camberwell College of Art, the University College London Scandinavian Studies course, a Danish high school class, as well as Italian High School students and a group of 16–17 year old science students from Tohoku in Japan, who visited the UK as part of a UK-Japan Young Scientist Workshop at Cambridge. This special visit to the Society was organised by a teacher from a UK-based Japanese Boarding School, whose own students also visited separately. The Society and its collections remain popular with US students, with groups visiting from Columbus State University, Ash College (University of Cincinnati) and Harvard University. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year undergraduate students from Harvard have visited the Society to learn more about Darwin and the History of the Linnean Society. As their tutor said in an email: *From the programme evaluations, I know that for the students coming to the Linn is always a major highlight of the entire six week programme.*



Librarian Lynda Brooks with Harvard University students

Anne-Maria Brennan continues to bring her final year students (Social Aspects of Science) from London South Bank University to see the Linnaean Collections and to hear about the Society’s rich history.

The Society’s outstanding collections of original artwork remain a huge draw—five different groups of botanical artists had special tours throughout the year, including a group from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, who came to view a selection of the Buchanan-Hamilton paintings of Nepalese plants, in preparation for their expedition to Nepal to find examples of these plants in the wild and produce new paintings of them. Two visits from groups of Art Fund members have also taken place, involving a detailed look at all the Society’s artworks.

The Library also hosted a number of tailored tours for institutions linked to the Society and the professional community of Library and Archives, including a group of very enthusiastic garden volunteers from Chelsea Physic Garden, staff and volunteers from the Natural History Museum, library staff from the Royal Horticultural Society Library at Wisley, the Pall Mall Libraries, and a team of British Library Science Reference Librarians.

The Library welcomed the Cambridge Society of Bibliophiles, a group of rare book enthusiasts, who said they felt like “kids in a sweetshop”. Such comments show how outstanding the Society’s collections are and how they can impress even seasoned connoisseurs. Initial collaborations with providers of London walks and study tours have been popular and promising, and help to increase awareness of the Society and raise funds.

The Library also ran tours for members of the U3A (University of the Third Age), who had a wealth of knowledge and life-stories relating to nature and Natural History to share. A visit was also arranged for members of the Selbourne Society to view some Gilbert White manuscripts and other of their archival material which is held on deposit by the Linnean Society.

The Society’s rooms are also in demand by film-makers, using it as a backdrop, for example, for filming an interview with Italian physicist Carlo Rovelli, whose unexpected bestseller *Sette brevi lezioni di fisica* (*Seven brief lessons in physics*) has been translated into more than 20 languages. The Society’s Botanical Curator, Dr Mark Spencer, was involved in filming a segment about Linnaeus as part of a documentary on Sir Joseph Banks, directed by Ian Cross.

## Lifelong Learning

The Society’s *Lifelong Learning* webpage listing for those wanting to learn more about identifying and classifying organisms now has 26 course providers from around the UK. There are courses that can lead to a professional qualification and those which are purely for pleasure and interest. Some of the courses are suitable for children and families too.

## Special Publications

### *THE LINNEAN*

2015 rang in *The Linnean*’s second year under the Editorship of Gina Douglas, with Leonie Berwick as Production Editor. The publication’s international Steering Group—Dr Fernando Vega, Professor Pieter Baas, Dr Sarah Whild, Dr Michael Wilson and Dr Mary Morris—have played an important role in selecting papers for publication and their suggestions for improvements on the papers have been invaluable; as always the Society is very grateful for their time and feedback. Articles in 2015 included a fascinating paper on ‘The “Muling” of Orchids’ in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, looking at early orchid hybridisation, and another on the importance of linking library collections to historical



specimens using a case study at the Natural History Museum, London: 'The Dollman Collection'. This paper has received a lot of positive feedback.

### *PuLSe*

The start of 2015 saw the publication of the 25<sup>th</sup> issue of *PuLSe*, the Society's magazine for Fellows. Issues 25–29 saw a variety of interesting articles, with firm favourites being those that revealed lesser-known details about the Society's collections, such as archival materials outlining Carl Linnaeus' son—Linnaeus the Younger's—trip to London in 'A Swede Abroad' by Dr Isabelle Charmantier. The online version of *PuLSe* saw over 4,745 individual page views for issue 25 alone, boosted in part by 'Hippocampus hippocampus: The Saga of the Short-snouted Seahorse' by Dr James Maclaime, which highlighted the use of the Society's collections in current taxonomic debates. As with previous years, the online version often holds extra information, images and videos.



### *SIR JAMES EDWARD SMITH BIOGRAPHY AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS*

Tom Kennett completed writing the biography in 2015 and the manuscript was sent out to a number of reviewers for comment; encouragingly all have been very positive and helpful, and led to Professor Janet Browne of Harvard University agreeing to write the preface. Much of the picture research was also completed, with original illustrations created for the book by Helen Cowdy. Special Publications Manager Leonie Berwick is managing, editing and producing the 400-plus page printed work. The publication date will be the Anniversary Meeting in May 2016.

All three of the Society's other volumes, published in recent years: *Letters to Linnaeus*, edited by Sandra Knapp and Quentin Wheeler; the award-winning *Order Out of Chaos: Linnaean Plant Names and their Types* by Charlie Jarvis and the second edition of *The History of Natural History*, by Gavin Bridson, are still available and produce a small income.

## COLLECTIONS RESEARCH: LIBRARY ENQUIRIES AND VISITORS

The Library's number of visitors and researchers remained high at 926 and 332 respectively. This number included a descendant of physician and botanist Francis Boott (1792–1863), whose portrait hangs in the Executive Secretary's office. Boott's mother-in-law, Lucy Hardcastle, wrote and illustrated what is said to be the first accessible or popular book on Linnaean botany in Britain. We also welcomed the great-great-great grand-daughter of Charles Hatchett FLS (1765–1847), the English chemist who discovered the element Niobium in 1801. The Mayor of Uppsala and her entourage, together with the Swedish Ambassador to London, Nicola Clase, visited the Society in January for a VIP tour and to see the Collections Store.

The number of visitors to the Collections Store rose to 694, again an increase on previous years.

A further 1,205 individuals visited the Society's Rooms on the day of Open House London on 19 September, another record number of visitors, double the number for 2010.

These record numbers of researchers and visitors reflect the increased accessibility of the Society's collections online and their promotion (through books, articles, web and social media and events like the lunchtime lectures), the Library's involvement in various collaborative projects, and the popularity of the Treasures Tours, which, by word-of-mouth, attract a steady stream of visitors.

Research topics (often resulting in theses, books or articles) have been as interesting and varied as the history of colonial botanic gardens, the material culture in Natural History (with special regard to tea and coffee), Linnaeus' records of the flora of Öland, the use of the Linnaean system in private natural history collections, the impact of Charles Darwin on Ernest Hemingway, woodland ecology in Britain, and the anatomy of the woodlouse, just to name a few. Taxonomic research, not surprisingly, was the most frequent motivation of the many scientists accessing the specimen collections, examples including new work on *Scarabaeus pilularius* and *Lycoperdon pistillare*.



*Lycoperdon pistillare* from the Linnaean Collections

A Swedish author used the Library's collections to research the natural history (discovery and exploration) of the coast of Malabar, as well as its contemporary flora, and the Library worked very closely with authors on books relating to Mark Catesby and James Sowerby.

Advice and expertise was also given for the BBC Earth website relating to the origins of nature writing and to a US publisher to make sure a new children's book about Carl Linnaeus got all the facts right (including the illustrations!).

Material from the Society's collections featured in the tours organised in collaboration with the Royal Academy of Arts exhibition entitled *Wanderlust* and the Burlington House Learned Societies around the work of Joseph Cornell (1903–72), an American artist who was famous for his use of images, textures and materials from the natural world and natural history to create 'shadow boxes'. The tours, covering all Burlington House Societies and the Royal Academy of Arts and led by Librarians and Curators, were a huge success and underlined the importance of Burlington House as an active and quintessential London Cultural Hub for the Arts and Sciences. The



Above and above right: *Natural Associations* tour in conjunction with the Royal Academy of Arts

Deputy Librarian also gave talks about Linnaeus in the Royal Academy during a hugely popular Joseph Cornell evening event, and developed a mini-exhibition entitled *Natural Associations*, creating a veritable 'cabinet of curiosities' within the Collections Store, showcasing items relevant to Cornell's work.

In line with previous years, the number of loans remained low at 39, reflecting the nature of our library as a reference rather than a lending library. The Library's most important holdings are not loanable due to their uniqueness, age, fragility, format or value. Accordingly, requests for material for Reading Room consultation increased from 757 to 878 items. The total number of email enquiries was high at around 4,600 compared to last year's around 3,700, while phone enquiries were ca. 350 compared to 264 last year.

## Scientific Research

### SPONSORSHIP

#### Systematics Research Fund 2015

The Systematics Research Fund (SRF) supports small-scale research projects in the field of systematics and taxonomy. The total annual fund is £30,000, with £24,000 contributed by the Linnean Society and £6,000 contributed by the Systematics Association. Contributions are typically made towards fieldwork expenditure, the purchase of scientific equipment or expertise (e.g. buying time on analytical equipment), specimen preparation (including the cost of temporary technical assistance) and contributions to publication costs. In 2014/2015, the Systematics Research Fund received a total of 173 applications, of which 31 were funded, as listed below. The possibility of seeking crowd-funding to support the high-quality projects which we were unable to fund is being explored by the Systematics Association for the 2016 round.

Mary Aime (USA)	Macrofungal diversity on the Guiana Shield: year 15 of a long-term expeditionary field study
David Bilton (UK)	Aquatic biodiversity in a semi-arid hotspot: systematics of Extra Cape water beetles
James Burgon (UK)	Genome-wide phylogenetic analysis of a diverse Palaearctic salamander lineage, <i>Salamandra</i> spp.
Juan Calleja (Spain)	Unravelling the diversity pole of <i>Volutaria</i> (Compositae) in the Horn of Africa
Adrian Di Giacomo (Argentina)	Evaluation of the taxonomic status of the ruddy-headed goose ( <i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i> )
Davide Foffa (UK)	Mesozoic marine reptiles of Scotland
Merca Galbany Casals (Spain)	The colonisation of the American continent by the genus <i>Pseudognaphalium</i>
Olwen Grace (UK)	Systematics and biogeography of the tree aloes
James Hansford (UK)	Investigating sexual-dimorphism in the Aepyornithidae
Gustavo Hassemer (Denmark)	Taxonomic revision of the <i>Plantago commersoniana</i> complex (Plantaginaceae)
Stacy Krueger (USA)	Genetic diversity in the non-native, monoecious, red seaweed <i>Grateloupia turuturu</i>
Fu Long-Fei (China)	Reproduction mode and sexual system research of <i>Elatostema</i> (Urticaceae) from China



Daniel Martin (Spain)	Cryptic fish bait: resolving the taxonomy of commercially exploited <i>Marphysa</i> (Annelida, Eunicidae)
Brezo Martínez (Spain)	Species delimitation and phylogeographic origin of a tropical hydrocoral that has appeared in Tenerife
Juan Moles (Spain)	Description of two new Antarctic nudibranchs by micro-CT
Rayner Núñez (Cuba)	DNA barcoding of Greater Antillean butterflies: testing the current based morphological taxonomy
Marianne Nyegaard (Australia)	Investigations into sunfish taxonomy in New Zealand waters
Trond Roger Oskars (Norway)	Speciation and biogeography in the deep sea: review and phylogenetic analysis of <i>Scaphander</i>
Ma Rocio Perez-Portela (Spain)	Systematics of brittlestars from European deep waters using morphological and molecular data
Anna Pienkowski (UK/Canada)	Foraminifera from Arctic Canada: a 21 <sup>st</sup> -century baseline for biomonitoring and palaeoclimatology
Péter Poczai (Finland)	The molecular phylogeny of ragweeds ( <i>Ambrosia</i> , Asteraceae)
Heritiana Ranarivelo (USA)	Species delimitation of the Malagasy <i>Psorospermum</i> (Hypericaceae): integrating morphological and molecular data
Pilar Rios (Spain)	Barcoding of Antarctic sponges from shallow waters of Deception Island (South Shetland)
Marcos Roca-Cusachs López-Balcells (Spain)	Testing ecological release and species boundaries in multi-island species
Sonia Rowley (USA)	Exploration and systematics of twilight reef gorgonian corals at Pakin Atoll, Micronesia
Davide Sassi (Italy)	Systematic review of subtribe Pachybrachina (Chrysomelidae, Cryptocephalini) of Central and South America
Christie Sukhdeo (USA)	Comparative phylogeography of the Cameroon Highlands dung beetle (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) fauna
Kristin Walovich (USA)	Taxonomic resolution of Southern African <i>Hydrolagus</i> chimaeras: implications for conservation and management
Kim Warren (UK)	<i>Rhinolophus philippinensis</i> in Indonesia: species, or species-complex?
Mark Wilkinson (UK)	Systematic implications of Caecilian squamation
Dongwei Zhao (Ireland)	Systematics of <i>Camellia</i> (Theaceae) in Vietnam



Pythereum fogging for beetles

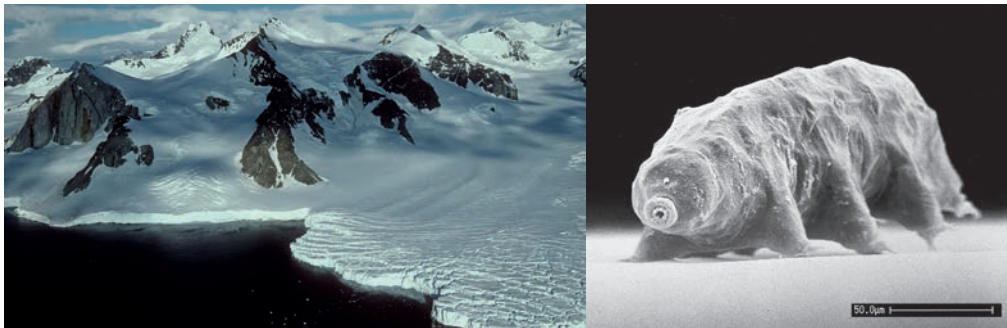
The **Attenborough Award 2015** for the best field work project from last year's SRF recipients was awarded to Dr Adam Brunke for his study *Relicts of ancient forests: uncovering evolution of hyperdiverse Staphylinini (Insecta: Coleoptera)*. You can find more details about this project in the December 2015 issue of the Society's magazine, *PuLSe*.

## Appleyard Fund

The Appleyard Fund was established in 1968 from the estate of Percy Appleyard FLS. Currently, up to £2,000 is available from which grants are made towards the expenses of research projects in the field of botany or zoology. Fellows and Associates of the Society who are not in full-time employment as biologists can apply. Registered students are not eligible to apply for this award.

One Appleyard award was made in 2015:

- ✧ Dr Sandra McInnes, for her project entitled *Antarctic Tardigrades: vicariant survivors or recent invasion?*, which she is carrying out in collaboration with the British Antarctic Survey, combining classical taxonomy with molecular data to identify 150 individual specimens (50 *Acutuncus antarcticus* and 100 *Macrobiotus furciger*) from a range of sites along the Antarctic Peninsula.



## Anne Sleep Award

This was established by Mrs Ivy Sleep in fulfilment of the wishes of her daughter, Dr Anne Sleep FLS, with awards of up to £3,000 being made at two-year intervals, to assist one or more scholars to carry out biological research in the Middle or Far East, or similarly for scholars from the Middle or Far East to pursue their own biological research in the UK. Those selected for awards should normally have recently obtained a PhD at a recognised institution and be of the highest academic standing.

Two Anne Sleep awards were made in 2015:

- ✧ Dr Ryoko Matsumoto for her project entitled *The first record of the enigmatic amphibian group Albanerpetontidae from the Early Cretaceous of Japan*, which she is carrying out in collaboration with UCL, under the direction of Professor Susan Evans. This funding will largely cover the costs of her three-week research visit to UCL, for a comparative study on Japanese & European fossil amphibians.
- ✧ Dr Joe Monks for his one month fieldwork project entitled *The Fig Wasp ecology of the mountains of Oman*, which he is carrying out in collaboration with the Oman Botanic Gardens, under the direction of Dr Annette Patzelt, to investigate tri-trophic interactions between *Ficus*, fig wasps and their parasitoids in Oman.

## MEDALS AND AWARDS 2015

Through awarding medals, the Society acknowledges and encourages excellence in all aspects of the biological sciences, with particular emphasis on evolution, taxonomy, biodiversity, conservation and sustainability.

At the Anniversary Meeting in May 2015, three Linnean Medals were awarded. The 2015 Linnean Medal in the field of Botany was awarded to Professor Engkik Soepadmo, but as he was unable to travel from Malaysia, arrangements were made for the Medal



**The 2015 Medal, Award and Prize Winners:** (from left to right) Professor Rosmarie Honegger (Linnean Medal—Lichenology); Mercy Morris (John Spedan Lewis Medal); Dr Vincent Smith (Bicentenary Medal); Dr Shanna Ludwig (Irene Manton Prize); Professor Roger Butlin (Darwin-Wallace Medal); Claire Banks (Jill Smythies Award); Professor Claus Nielsen (Linnean Medal—Zoology); Professor Dianne Edwards PPLS; Robert Heckford (HH Bloomer Award) and Professor Paul Brakefield FRS PLS

to be presented by Her Excellency Vicki Treadell, the British High Commissioner Malaysia, at the High Commission in Kuala Lumpur. The President presented the 2015 Linnean Medal in the field of Zoology to Professor Claus Nielsen, and the 2015 Linnean Medal in the field of lichenology to Professor Rosmarie Honegger. The 2015 Darwin-Wallace Medal for significant contributions to the field of evolutionary biology was awarded to Professor Roger Butlin. The Bicentenary Medal for a Biologist under 40 was awarded to Dr Vincent Smith. The 2015 Irene Manton Prize for the best doctoral thesis in Plant Sciences in the UK was awarded to Dr Shanna Ludwig. Neither the Trail-Crisp medal for contributions to microscopy nor the John C Marsden Medal for the best doctoral thesis in the Biological Sciences in the UK were awarded in 2015. The HH Bloomer Award for an amateur naturalist was awarded to Robert (Bob) Heckford and the Jill Smythies Award for published botanical art was awarded to Claire Banks. Sir Charlie Mayfield, Chairman of the John Lewis Partnership, presented the inaugural 2015 John Spedan Lewis Medal to Mercy Morris for her leading role in transforming cultivated plant conservation. The full citations for the award winners can be found on the Society's website, and in *The Linnean*, Volume 31 number 2, published October 2015.



## RESEARCH JOURNALS

The Society's research Journals continue to provide its life blood and we salute our dedicated editors, Emeritus Professor John Allen (*Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*) and Dr Mike Fay (*Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*), led by Professor Mark Chase FRS, and loyally supported by their networks of associate Editors, Editorial Assistants and Reviewers. With Dr Peter Hayward's retirement after eight years, we are pleased to welcome Dr Louise Allcock as the new Editor-in-Chief for the *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* (*ZJLS*). The Society is deeply indebted to Peter for his dedication and commitment to the *ZJLS*, which has gone from strength to strength under his editorship, and is grateful that Peter will continue his input into the Society's *Synopses*, which he has edited since 2002.

A few select highlights from each research journal in 2015 are listed below:

- 2015 was a bumper year for the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* (impact factor 2.264) and saw the submission of a record ca. 600 manuscripts. A highlight was the July Special Issue *Fifty Years of the Biological Records Centre*, a collection of 23 highly-citable papers celebrating a subject at the heart of the Society's mission for promoting natural history: biological recording. Several stand-alone papers also attracted considerable media attention including, at the start of the year, 'Patrick Matthew's law of natural selection' (Altmetric score: 67), a reminder that Darwin and Wallace were not the only ones to propose natural selection. The year closed with the EarlyView publication of an evolutionary analysis of virgin births in snakes. Within just two weeks this had accrued an Altmetric points score of 173.



- The *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* had another successful year, with the new impact factor (2.534) being close to that from the previous year. A special issue of *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* was published in July, entitled *Monocot palaeoecology: DNA, fossils and phylogenetics* and other important papers included an updated classification of Orchidaceae and reviews on living cells in wood, angiosperm development and litter-trapping plants. We are pleased to announce that the next update of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group classification (APG IV) will be published in the journal in 2016.



- Submissions to *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society* remain strong, with over 400 manuscripts submitted during 2015. The impact factor remains steady, climbing a fraction to 2.717. Several papers have generated excitement in 2015, most notably 'Phenotypic plasticity raises questions for taxonomically important traits: a remarkable new Andean rainfrog (*Pristimantis*) with the ability to change skin texture' with an Altmetric score of 162.



Phenotype plasticity in skin texture in *Pristimantis sabetes* MZUTI 412, from Reserva Las Galarias, Ecuador. Frog photographed in natural conditions (Top) and laboratory (Bottom). Images courtesy Wiley.

### *Synopses of British Fauna Series*

We are pleased to report that the revised edition of Synopsis 3, *Intertidal Marine Isopods*, was published in September 2015, the revising author being Professor Angelika Brandt. There are other new editions in the wings, namely Geoff Wigham's revision of Synopsis 2, *Molluscs: Prosobranch and Pyramidellid Gastropods*, is well advanced, and the first of three projected successor volumes should be submitted early in 2016. The revised text of Synopsis 7, *British Cumaceans*, is also close to completion, while Bernard Picton's revision of Synopses 1, *British Ascidians*, and 8, *Molluscs: Benthic Opisthobranchs (Mollusca: Gastropoda)*, is well under way.

## Strategic Plan 2012–16

**T**he Council, Officers and Committees of the Society have continued to use the Strategic Plan, first laid out in 2008, and revised in 2012, as a tool for guidance and management leading to achievement of the strategic goal of the Society as stated in its original Charter:

### THE CULTIVATION OF THE SCIENCE OF NATURAL HISTORY IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

Led by the Strategic Planning Officer, Professor David Cutler PPLS, the Strategic Plan was reviewed by members of Council, Officers and Committees of the Society, together with the staff, in November 2015, and a number of proposals were made which will be followed up in 2016, especially with regard to regional initiatives. In the interim, Professor Cutler continues to ensure that the Society's Committees regularly monitor their responsibilities under the plan, and look ahead to develop the plan as circumstances change.

The main elements of the current Strategic Plan are:

- 1. Be an inspiration for the scientific study of natural history and widen the appeal of the Society**
  - a. Arrange and hold scientific meetings
  - b. Publish peer-reviewed journals and books
  - c. Award prizes, grants and medals
  - d. Develop the educational programme to targeted groups
  - e. Ensure that Public Benefits are as comprehensive as possible
- 2. Be an informed, independent voice in matters relating to natural history**
  - a. Raise public awareness of issues in natural history
  - b. Raise government awareness of issues in natural history
  - c. Maintain successful relationships with the press and media
- 3. Be a forum for our Fellows and others interested in natural history**
  - a. Provide an outlet for Fellows' expertise and interests
  - b. Link our Fellowship in common causes
  - c. Provide relevant support for other individuals and societies interested in the study of natural history
  - d. Increase the Fellowship, whilst maintaining membership standards
- 4. Be a centre for the study of natural history**
  - a. Maintain our Collections and library to the highest possible standards
  - b. Provide access to our collections and library for a wide audience

## 5. Provide long-term user access to the Society's rooms at Burlington House

- a. Secure the Burlington House premises for our users
- b. Expand existing and develop additional income streams for the Society

### PUBLIC BENEFIT

In reviewing the Society's aims and objectives and in planning future activities, Council has referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.



## Forward Look

The Society's various Committees have spent considerable time during the latter half year reviewing all their activities and most appropriately clarifying their future objectives and needs, as can be seen elsewhere in this Annual Report. The key element to bring these objectives to fruition is to build the financial strength of the Society. To do this, it is essential to raise the Society's profile at all levels, in order to build influence and more importantly to increase the Society's Fellowship and membership, particularly in academic institutions and universities. To this end, the Society will start by organising a road-show for university fresher events.

The Society's mission statement has never been more important, *The Cultivation of the Science of Natural History in all its Branches*. The Society needs to do more of what it excels at, namely safe-guarding its unique historic collections and leveraging these in connecting people with the natural world, raising awareness of important biological concepts that have relevance in today's wider society. To help with this effort, the Society has let a new contract to upgrade the website, enhancing functionality. The Online Collections will also continue to be developed to make them as fully available as possible to all levels of users. Besides the data already available, many exciting projects based around the Society's archives remain to be researched, and will facilitate access to learning, as outlined below. The Society looks forward to attracting further grant funding, donations and legacies to support such activities, which will benefit the historic and the scientific community alike, as well as the general public, nationally and internationally.

The Education team will grow when appropriate funds can be obtained. It is essential to build on the ongoing Loan Kit initiative as well as the BioMedia Meltdown Project. These are excellent models for how the Society can develop Loan Kits with activities, and support them by delivering student workshops and teacher CPD sessions (Continuing Professional Development) in schools, to explore concepts in Biology within the National Curriculum.

There are continuing discussions with HMG with regard to the Learned Societies occupation of New Burlington House. Various plans are being developed to cope with different alternatives that may be forthcoming.

After many years of publishing with Wiley, the Society has negotiated a new contract to begin on 1 January 2017 with Oxford University Press (OUP). The Anniversary Meeting in 2016 will see the publication of the definitive biography of our first President, *The Lord Treasurer of Botany*, the result of a huge amount of hard work and research by Tom Kennett.

The strength and depth of the history of leadership demonstrated by the Society augers well for an exciting and hopefully growing staff team that will ensure the continued growth both in Fellowship and influence through the coming years.

Future cataloguing, conservation and digitisation projects, cover a wide range of topics, for example:

- ✧ **Pulteney Project:** the correspondence of the apothecary Richard Pulteney (1730–1801).
- ✧ **From Card to CALM:** the Society is seeking to transfer the card record index (ca. 3,033 cards) of its manuscript holdings to a fully searchable, hierarchical, and standards-based catalogue. The manuscripts collection concerns the history of natural history and all branches of biology from the mid-1750s and is an invaluable resource for scientific research and outreach.
- ✧ **Artworks Project:** 6,500 to 7,000 original botanical, zoological and geological drawings, representing mainly 19<sup>th</sup>-century natural history. These pieces are not only scientifically significant but also historically and artistically important and can be used as an inspiration for teaching students.



Artworks Project:  
using original  
artwork by James  
Sowerby to inspire

- ✧ **The Günther Albums:** a major collection of animal art, contained in 39 large volumes of printed illustrations, drawings, photographs and printed ephemera on terrestrial and marine fauna of all regions, amassed by Albert CLG Günther (1830–1914), 13<sup>th</sup> President of the Linnean Society.

- ✧ **Shells Re-United Online:** a joint project in collaboration with Museum of Evolution, Uppsala University. It would digitally re-unite the two Linnaean shell collections, in order to facilitate taxonomic and historical research.

- ✧ **Specimens and Collections Records:** the transcription, interpretation and migration of the data held in various formats (including determination sheets) into one single database and the online specimen catalogue, so that this information is available to researchers worldwide.





## Financial Review

The last of the four major projects, most generously fully funded by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, was completed during the year, this being the cataloguing, digitisation, conservation and rehousing of the miscellaneous Linnaean material. All the data associated with this amazing collection should be available on-line through the Society's website in the Spring of next year. As with all the Andrew W Mellon Foundation Projects, the work was completed on time and to budget. All those specialists brought in to work on this project are to be congratulated and thanked for their thoroughness and professionalism. The grant to carry out this work was £70,282.

Through the generosity of John Lyon's Charity, the Society has also been able to add to the Education team by employing Ross Ziegelmeier. His task has been to develop for the Society a programme entitled the *BioMedia Meltdown*, with the aim of engaging students from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Natural Sciences. This programme is well underway and is beginning to show some wonderful results as can be seen elsewhere in this Report. The grant provided was £45,000, with £22,737 expended this year.

As issue 26 of *PuLSe* indicated, the Society received from the Charles Darwin Trust a most generous gift of Darwinian and Wallacean material which contained many key works, manuscripts and letters. This collection valued at £1,400,000 is accounted for under the heading, 'Heritage Assets' in the Balance Sheet.

The Summary Accounts shows the Society's Income considerably up on last year, by some £265,165. This was due, in the main, to the most generous bequest from the estate of Dr Rosemary Lowe-McConnell of £286,328. This disguises the fact that the only main income-generating area that delivered more funds than last year was from the Use of Rooms, as will be seen later. Expenditure increased by £125,853 compared with 2014. The variation can be seen in detail from the accounts below, but the largest increase in expenditure was caused by the need to cover the Society's portion of the legal fees incurred by the five Learned Societies whose rooms are housed in New Burlington House. The discussions with HMG over the rent review and associated matters have been underway for over a year. The overall calculations show that after the day-to-day running costs of the Society are covered there was a surplus of £278,911 at the end of the year. It should be noted, however, that without the exceptional legacy referred to above, there would have been a deficit for the year amounting to £7,417.

### Fellows' Contributions, Donations and Grants

There were 2,380 paying Fellows at the end of the year, with a further 23 Associates and 32 Student Members. There were 124 new Fellows having been elected (and

paid up) during the year. There were 16 resignations and 31 deaths. The full total of Fellows, with Honorary and other non-paying members included, now stands at 2,566, compared with 2,530 at the end of 2014. Currently there are 130 defaulters who need to pay their dues by 24 May 2016. This increase in the defaulter numbers as well as the fact that income from Fellows paying to receive printed copies of the *Biological* and *Zoological Journal* ceased this year has meant that for the first time in many years the total Contributions Income fell from £137,306 last year to £129,856 this year. It is sincerely hoped that all the Fellows who are in arrears will pay up promptly.

The Society greatly appreciates those Fellows who have generously signed the Gift Aid Form, as it allowed the Society to recover £7,488 to support its aims and objectives. Income from Standing Orders and Direct Debit mandates, set up by Fellows in support of the Tercentenary Fund appeal, yielded £21 this year.

As already mentioned, the Society received a most generous bequest from the estate of Dr Rosemary Lowe-McConnell of £286,328, which Council agreed should be invested by purchasing more shares to add to the Society's portfolio. This had been depleted over the years to carry out the refurbishment programme of the Society's rooms and towards the purchase of Toynbee House. The Society also received a legacy from the estate of James Iliff for £2,000. Professor Desmond Donovan most generously gave a gift to the Society of £5,000 and there was a further Anonymous gift of £1,000 from another Fellow, as well as a gift from Robin Bruce for £100 and another from Jenny Grundy for £100. The Society also received two most generous gifts towards the purchase of the two Opie paintings of the Society's first President's wife, Lady Pleasance Smith. The Murray Family donated £20,000 and Mrs Susan Gove, the former Chairperson of the Collections Committee, gave £5,000 to complete the successful purchase of these two great paintings. The Society is most grateful to these donors for their rapid response and great generosity. It cannot be said often enough how valuable such generous legacies and gifts are to the Society in helping to carry out its many programmes and having them properly funded.



(TOP) Dr Rosemary Lowe-McConnell; (BOTTOM) Prof Gren Lucas OBE, *right*, receives a cheque from Dr Pat Morris on behalf of the Lowe-McConnell estate

## Publications

The vital income received through the Joint Publishing Account with Wiley was down on last year at £674,563 compared with £695,939 in 2014. As identified elsewhere in this Report, this total is obtained through the fine combined efforts of the Society's Editorial teams, led by Professor Mark Chase FRS as Editorial Secretary, with the very active Editors, Emeritus Professor John Allen, for the *Biological Journal*, Dr Mike Fay for the *Botanical Journal*, and Dr Peter Hayward who has been the Editor of the *Zoological Journal* for eight years. He has now handed over the reins to Dr Louise Allcock of the University of Galway. The Society thanks Peter for all his excellent work in maintaining and improving the *Zoological Journal* throughout his time as Editor. Our Editors are fully supported by their review teams and the dedicated team at Wiley.

At the end of the year, a review of the Society's publishing arrangements was carried out and the publishing contract was put out to tender, the result of which was that as from 1 January 2017 the Society will be moving its publishing contract from Wiley to Oxford University Press.

## Investments

### Investment Policy

The general aim is to enhance the value of both capital and income on a long term sustainable basis. Investments are to be of a prudent nature, offering no more than moderate risk and avoiding more speculative investments.

As last year, *The Times* of 1 January 2016 most succinctly summarised the plight of the Stock Market in 2015 with the headline, "FTSE lags the world with worst performance in 4 years". It went on to say: "The Stock Market has recorded its worst yearly performance since 2011 with the share prices of no fewer than 38 of 100 blue-chip companies ending the year lower than where they started. The FTSE 100 Index fell for the second year running, outpaced by all main rivals including America, France, Germany, Japan and even China. The Index closed 32 points lower at 6,242 recording a fall for the full year of 4.9%. Even allowing for dividends, the total return from the FTSE 100 was -1%, meaning share investors would have done better putting their money into the most niggardly of savings accounts."

It was a good thing the Society did not need to raise any capital this year from the sale of shares. In fact the Society purchased £290,000 of new shares as mentioned earlier. The book value was increased by £337,403 from £1,671,948 to £2,009,352 by the end of the year. The market value rose to £2,422,066 compared with £2,261,130 at the end of 2014. The Income return on investments as a whole was 3% compared with 4% last year. The decreased investment income is £32,352 compared with £36,354 for 2014 available to the General Fund and reflects only too well on the

overall malaise in the stock market at the present time. The overall management of the share portfolio was transferred during the year and after review from Brewin Dolphin to Ashcourt Rowan.

The total income from all investments, both for the General Fund and Trust and Special Fund was £58,167 compared with £66,864 earned last year.

### Designated Funds

The Mortgage Liability fund stands at £275,000, whilst the outstanding mortgage repayment stands at £275,732. Special Library Expenses Provision is £6,470. The Development Fund stands at £200,000. The Development Fund is expected to be spent over the next five years.

### Reserves Policy

The Society's general reserve is held to facilitate cash flow and to enable the Society to continue to operate effectively in the event that income be significantly reduced. The general reserve is also held to provide funding for projects which have not attracted external funding. The Trustees consider that a minimum of 5 months of operational expenditure should be held in the general reserve which currently amounts to approximately £400k to £600k. In addition the Society holds designated reserves to reflect funds spent on fixed assets and to earmark funds for planned future expenditure. The current balance on the general reserve amounts to £932k which the Trustees consider reasonable in the context of budgeted costs.

### Remuneration Policy for Senior Management

Remuneration of the Senior Management Team is reviewed and approved by the Honorary Officers of the Society, on the advice of the Honorary Treasurer, taking into consideration current trends in like-organisations. The Officers of the Society are [re]-elected annually.





## Accounts

The full accounts were prepared to conform to the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP – FRS 102). However, for Fellows, the layout of the text and summary accounts has been maintained as far as possible, in a similar format to previous years.

*The Use of Rooms.* Through continued hard work this year again saw the Income from this source rise to £48,459 compared with £44,968 in 2014. Victoria Smith, Buildings and Office Manager led this success story. Sadly Tom Helps left during the year to ‘see the world’ and so we welcomed in his place Tatiana Franco who was appointed Room Hire Manager. All members of the team are to be congratulated on this success. Catering yielded £5,658 compared with £4,559 last year.

*Financial Contributions* towards Grant Expenditure was slightly down this year at £7,186 compared with £7,578 in 2014.

*Royalty Income* was well down this year at £621 compared with £1,694 last year.

*Contributions to Library Facilities* rose to £1,752 from £1,250 in 2014.

*Contributions to Meetings* there were no contributions to meetings this year, compared with £3,000 last year.

The *Other Income* heading showed a large increase on last year at £4,552 compared with £1,153 in 2014. This was due, in the main, to the gain in the value of the Society’s Dollar Account in Pounds of £1,930.

As with the Income, the Expenditure figures show the net situation at the end of the year, for example, the *Scientific Meetings* heading shows a net cost to the Society of £11,026. The actual expenditure was £16,478, with an income of £5,452. Last year’s net expenditure under this heading was £12,793.

The cost of *Medals and Engraving* was minimal at £189, compared with £877 last year. However, next year there will be a considerably larger cost as a new stock of medals will need to be struck to replenish the Society’s holdings.

Overall expenditure for the *Library* was £10,709 compared with £11,644 in 2014. The £25,000 needed to purchase the two Opie portraits was funded by kind donors who have been identified earlier. The Society also purchased a book and letters by John Claudius Loudon in April.

The costs found under the *The Linnean* heading which includes the production of the *Annual Report*, continued to drop slightly to £10,083, compared with £10,769 in

2014. Leonie Berwick is to be congratulated in that she was able to find reductions in the cost of production and dispatch of *PuLSe* to £9,630 compared with £12,987 in 2014.

*Payroll costs* climbed again this year with the total being £409,526 compared with £373,219 in 2014. As indicated last year some staff costs were offset against various appropriate projects. This year one sees more clearly the true staff costs. The coming year will see a steep increase in costs under this heading as the Society is offering work-place pensions to all the staff with the consequential costs this will entail. It is appropriate here to note that the two project headings dealt with earlier cover the salaries of those staff employed on each particular task and project, and do not appear in this section of the report.

*Training costs* were considerably less at £2,341 compared with £5,886 last year.

*Financial Services* costs were £11,552 compared with £10,057 last year and this appears to be the new norm for these services.

*Legal and Related Professional Fees* reflect the £5,735 paid to the Society's Auditors. The Society's share of the legal fees in relation to discussions with HMG with regard to the rent was £54,758. Surveyors Fees of £8,269, giving a total expenditure for the year of £68,762.

*Mortgage Interest Payments for Toynbee House* were £11,416 for the full third year, this compares with £11,574 for last year.

*Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone* costs were slightly lower this year at £21,095 compared with £21,156 in 2014.

*Office Equipment* costs for the year was £521, this figure returning to the general norm for an average year when bulk replacement purchases do not need to be made, as occurred last year. Photocopying costs rose to £2,075 with the need to reproduce many educational leaflets. 2014 costs were £998.

The *General Rates* grew again this year to £29,510 from £25,398 in 2014. This still includes a levy of £471 in support of the 'Heart of London' programme. *Water Rates* were down this year to £1,020 from £1,213 in 2014. Similarly *Gas and Electricity* costs were significantly down at £14,519 compared with £18,042 in 2014, this reduction was no doubt helped by the boiler breakdown during the year.

*Repairs, Maintenance and Renewals* of contracts covered the new lift as well as major expenditure on repairs to the boiler, giving a final cost of £35,146 at the end of the year. The cost for last year was £22,727.

*Depreciation Costs* this year dropped to £35,454 compared with £50,626 last year.

*Committee Expenses* rose to £16,634 this year as the changes of Council and its Committees members have been drawn from a wider constituency across the UK than previously. Last year the cost was £10,856. *Miscellaneous Expenses* were slightly up on last year at £3,067, from £2,717 in 2014.

*Affiliation Fees and Subscriptions* remained much the same as last year at £1,207 compared with £1,072 in 2014. The Royal Society for Biology dues for the year were £3,605 compared to £3,500 last year.

*Grants and Awards* given out this year amounted to £29,484, compared to £27,082 in 2014. The Systematics Association contributed £6,000 to this total as in previous years.

As mentioned earlier in this report and as in last year's Annual Report, the Society, collectively, with the other 4 Courtyard Societies, is still in negotiation with the Landlord, HMG, through their Agents GVA with regard to the rent. Victoria Smith remains as the minute Secretary for the meetings of this group. Expenditure and Contingencies under this heading for this year consists mainly of the Insurance and Fire Alarm costs, as well as the Service charge with a total cost of £121,126, which includes £54,000 as an estimated rent addition, compared with a total last year of £67,645.

*Website and Hosting* costs have been reduced by negotiation, and for this year are £36,808, compared with £50,222 last year.

*Education* costs for the year were £15,286, but this does not include expenditure covered by a most generous grant from John Lyon's Charity of £22,737 paying for this year's element of this new project, and dealt with earlier in the report. We said goodbye to Mair Shepherd who successfully completed her project during the year.

*Health and Safety* costs were identical to last year at £1,199.

*Toynbee House* Maintenance and running costs for the year were only £6,125 compared with £11,214 in 2014.

Irrecoverable VAT this year is £13,000 compared with none in 2014.

All other expenditure costs were in line with their budget headings.

It is most appropriate at this point to thank all the Officers and Staff for being, as usual, so careful in the control of expenditure in their areas of responsibility. Finally, it is particularly appropriate to thank our Financial Controller, Priya Nithianandan, for his careful and constant oversight of all the Society's financial activities.

## Summary Accounts

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

GENERAL FUNDS	2015	2014
INCOME	£	£
Contributions	129,856	137,306
Tax Recovered	7,488	7,150
Publications – Joint Account *	674,563	695,939
Back Issues (Net)	709	745
Other Publications (Net)	703	780
Contribution toward Grant Expenditure	7,186	7,578
Investment Income	32,352	36,354
Donations Received	8,950	2,950
Legacies Received	288,328	1,032
Use of Rooms	48,459	44,968
Royalties	621	1,694
Contribution towards Special Library exp	495	-
Contribution to Library Facilities	1,752	1,250
Contribution to Meetings	-	3,000
Other Income	4,552	1,153
Catering (Net)	5,658	4,559
Fellows Appeal	21	70
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,211,693</b>	<b>946,528</b>

\* Publication Income includes Editorial costs netted off of £99,303 (2014: £97,203) which were incurred by the Society

### EXPENDITURE

Scientific Meetings (Net)	11,026	12,793
Medals	189	877
Library: Expenditure	10,709	11,644
<i>The Linnean</i>	10,083	10,769
<i>PuLSe</i>	9,630	12,987
Salaries and National Insurance	409,526	373,219
Training	2,341	5,886
Financial Services	11,552	10,057



<b>EXPENDITURE cont'd</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Legal and Related Professional Fees	68,762	6,819
Mortgage Interest – Toynbee House	11,416	11,574
Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone	21,095	21,156
Office Equipment	521	7,258
Photocopying	2,075	998
General Rates	29,510	25,398
Water Rates	1,020	1,213
Electricity and Gas	14,519	18,042
Repairs, Maintenance and Renewals	35,146	22,727
Depreciation	35,454	50,626
Committee Expenses	16,634	10,856
Miscellaneous	3,067	2,717
Cleaning and Refuse	667	389
Affiliation Fees and Subscriptions	1,207	1,072
Society of Biology Dues	3,605	3,500
Linnean & Systematics Grants	29,484	27,082
DCLG** Expenses (Insurance and Fire Alarm)	121,126	67,645
Website and hosting costs	36,808	50,222
Provision for VAT	13,000	-
Education	15,286	26,990
Health and Safety	1,199	1,199
Toynbee House maintenance Exp	6,125	11,214
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>932,782</b>	<b>806,929</b>

\*\* Department for Communities and Local Government

**EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE  
BEFORE REFURBISHMENT & PROJECT  
COSTS**

**£278,911**

**£139,599**

	2015 £	2014 £
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE BEFORE REFURBISHMENT &amp; PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>£278,911</b>	<b>139,599</b>
<b>REFURBISHMENT COSTS</b>		
Expenses relating to Burlington House	1,155	20,588
Expenses relating to renovation of Tynbee House	-	-
Grant for Building works	-	-
	<b>1,155</b>	<b>20,588</b>
<b>PROJECT COSTS</b>		
IT Consultant and Hardware for Projects	1,200	1,650
The Linnaeus Link Project	5,991	7,344
Andrew W Mellon Supported Smith Correspondence Conservation Project Expenditure 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	-	2,879
Andrew W Mellon Supported Smith Conservation Project Income 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	-	(2,820)
Andrew W Mellon Supported The Linnaean Manuscripts Project Expenditure	70,282	124,298
Andrew W Mellon Supported The Linnaean Manuscripts Project Income	(70,282)	(124,298)
BioMedia Meltdown Project Expenditure Supported by John Lyon's Charity	22,737	-
BioMedia Meltdown Project Income Supported by John Lyon's Charity	(22,737)	-
Biography of Sir James Edward Smith	5,610	27,361
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>12,801</b>	<b>36,414</b>
<b>NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>	<b>£264,955</b>	<b>(£82,597)</b>

	2015	2014
<b>RESTRICTED AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS</b>		
Income Receivable Unspent During the Year	<u>1,384,936</u>	<u>(114,818)</u>
<b>INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>		
(Loss)/Gain Revaluations and Disposals of Fixed Asset Investments	(104,121)	7,149
	<u>(104,121)</u>	<u>7,149</u>

## Balance Sheet

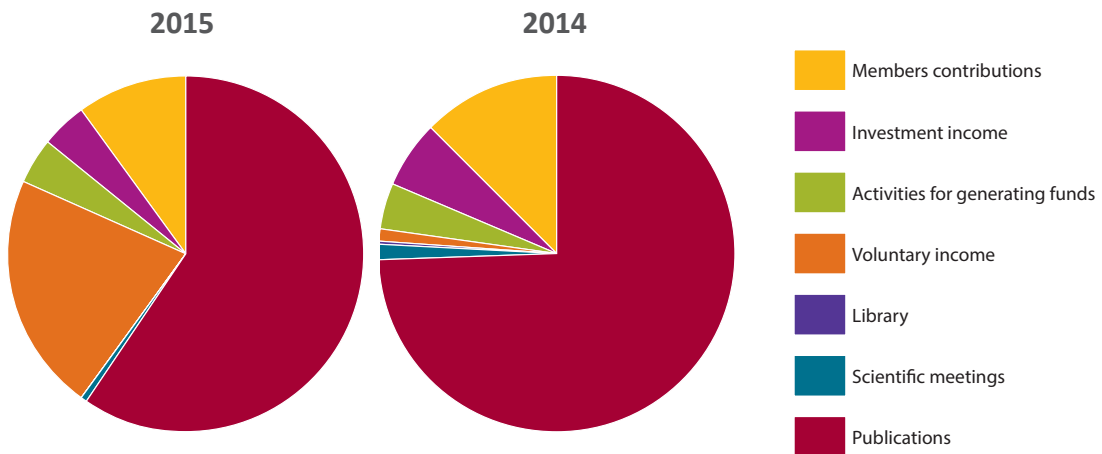
	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>	£	£
Heritage Assets	1,451,000	26,000
Investments	2,422,066	2,261,130
Tangible Fixed Assets (Equipment and Refurbishment)	208,927	219,901
Fixed Assets Land and Property	559,465	581,189
Net Current (Liabilities)/Assets	246,525	261,679
Long Term Liabilities	(275,732)	(283,418)
	<u>4,612,251</u>	<u>3,066,481</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
General	931,775	904,001
Designated (1) (4)	1,067,720	857,610
Endowments (2)	588,316	618,970
Restricted (3)	2,024,440	685,900
	<u>4,612,251</u>	<u>3,066,481</u>

### Notes

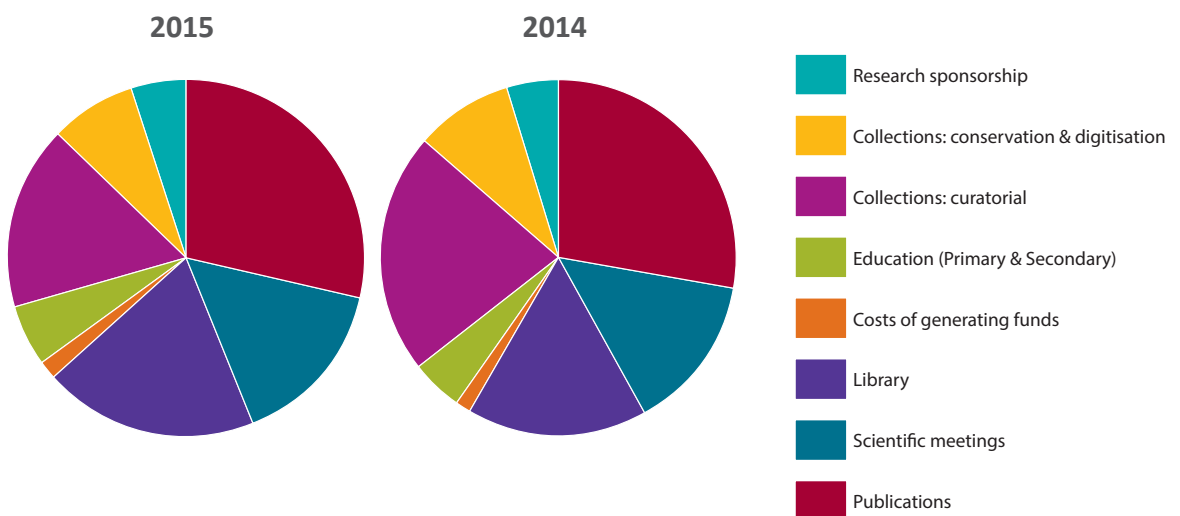
1. Designated Funds are those funds which have been earmarked for specific purposes by the Trustees and, together with the General Funds, comprise the Unrestricted Funds.
2. Endowments represent capital funds where only the income arising may be spent.
3. Restricted Funds may only be spent for the purposes prescribed by the donor.
4. A Fixed Asset Fund has been set up as a separate designated reserve from 2013 to represent the extent to which the Society's general reserve has been utilised to acquire fixed assets. This ensures that the balance on the general reserve gives a better indication of the funds available to the Society.

Below are pie charts for 2015 showing income and expenditure with comparative charts for 2014. The charts have been compiled from figures from the Statement of Financial Activities as prescribed by the Charity Commission and are shown in the full set of Annual Accounts for 2015. Voluntary Income includes donations and legacies and it should be noted how important this income stream is to the Society. The charts also show how heavily dependent the Society's charitable activities are on Publications Income.

## INCOMING RESOURCES



## RESOURCES EXPENDED





## Trustees' Statement

The Accounts above are a summary of information extracted from the Society's annual accounts. For a full understanding of the Society's financial affairs, the full Annual Accounts, Audit Report and Trustees' statutory Annual Report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from the Executive Secretary. The full accounts, on which the auditors have given an unqualified opinion, were presented to the Audit Review Committee and signed by the Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees on 14 March 2016.

On behalf of the Trustees  
G LI LUCAS OBE FLS

## Auditors' Statement

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of its incoming resources and resources expended for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

KNOX CROPPER,  
Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors  
8/9 West Court, London, EC4M 9DN  
14 March 2016

## Appendix 1

### *Society Meetings and Events 2015*

15 January 2015 EVENING MEETING	A Very Fine Swan Indeed: Art, science and <i>The Unfeathered Bird</i> <b>Katrina van Grouw</b>
29 January 2015 DAY MEETING	Systematics and Botanical Illustration <b>Rosemary Wise FLS, Dr Michael Fay FLS and Dr Robert Scotland FLS</b> <i>Organised jointly with the Systematics Association</i>
4 February 2015 LUNCHTIME LECTURE	Inside the Linnean Society <b>Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS PLS</b>
19 February 2015 EVENING MEETING	Coffee and Climate Change: Understanding the problems and finding the solutions <b>Dr Aaron Davis FLS</b>
4 March 2015 LUNCHTIME LECTURE	Birds and Music—A violinist's view <b>Paul Barritt</b>
18 March 2015 STUDENT LECTURE	Animal Personalities and Group Behaviour <b>Jolle Jolles</b>
18 March 2015 REGIONAL MEETING	Bees, Pesticides and Politics: The impact of neonicotinoids on UK bumblebees <b>Professor Dave Goulson FRES FRSE</b> <i>Organised by Dr Rich Boden FLS at Plymouth University</i>
19 March 2015 EVENING MEETING	Arthropod Evolution <b>Dr Greg Edgecombe</b>
1 April 2015 LUNCHTIME LECTURE	Linnaeus's Fishes <b>Oliver Crimmen FLS</b>
16 April 2015 SCIENCE POLICY LECTURE	A New Voyage of Discovery: Next-generation biodiversity discovery <b>Professor Ian Owens</b> <i>Organised jointly with the Systematics Association</i>
29 April 2015 STUDENT LECTURE	Wildlife Disease and Biodiversity: What is the impact? <b>Dr Becki Lawson</b>
6 May 2015 LUNCHTIME LECTURE	Sorcery, War Canoes and Sacred Shrines: Field work in the Solomon Islands in 1908 <b>Professor Edvard Hviding and Professor Tim Bayliss-Smith</b>

- 19 May 2015  
*BOOK LAUNCH*  
The Curious Mister Catesby  
**David Elliott FLS, Dr Charles Nelson and Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance FRS PPLS**
- 22 May 2015  
*SPECIAL EVENT*  
ANNIVERSARY MEETING  
Following in Their Footsteps: Cambridge women botanists and the Linnean Society  
**Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS PLS**
- 3 June 2015  
*LUNCHTIME LECTURE*  
The Genetic Diversity of Farmed Animals  
**Andrew Sheppy FLS**
- 18 June 2015  
*EVENING MEETING*  
Plant Conservation—Now is the time to change our minds  
**Timothy Walker FLS**
- 27 June 2015  
*SPECIAL EVENT*  
CONVERSAZIONE 2015  
Held at University of Bristol Botanic Garden, Bristol  
**Organised & hosted by Professor Simon Hiscock FLS**
- 17 September 2015  
*EVENING MEETING*  
The Global Oil Supply: Implications for Biodiversity?  
**Professor Chris Rhodes FLS**
- 19 September 2015  
*SPECIAL EVENT*  
OPEN HOUSE 2015  
*In collaboration with all the Courtyard Societies*
- 23 September 2015  
*SPECIALIST GROUP DAY MEETING*  
The Joint Committee for the Conservation of British Insects, Invertebrate Link (JCCBI)  
**Professor David Cutler PPLS, Dr Mike Morris FLS, Darren Mann FLS, Dr Sarah Henshall, Professor Helen Roy, Dr Jane Sears, Dafydd Lewis and Richard Chadd FLS**  
*Organised by Oliver Cheesman in association with the Linnean Society's Taxonomy & Systematics Committee*
- 24 September 2015  
*DAY MEETING*  
The Joy of Discovering the Natural World *Plenary Meeting of the Taxonomy and Systematics Committee of the Linnean Society of London*  
**Professor David Cutler PPLS, Dr Zerina Johanson FLS, Dr Ralf Britz, Richard Butler FLS, Dr Sandy Knapp FLS, Dr Michael Cunliffe, Dr David Legg, Dr Bryn Dentinger, Dr Greg Edgecombe, Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS PLS, Dr Gavin Broad, Dr Mark Hughes FLS, Dr Luke Parry, Dr Diana Percy, Dr Tim Utteridge FLS, Dr Jakob Vinther, Dr Maria Vorontsova FLS, Dr David Williams FLS and Dr John Wood FLS**  
*Organised by Dr Robert Scotland FLS and Dr Ellinor Michel*
- 29 September 2015  
*BOOK EVENT*  
The Naming of the Shrew  
**John Wright**
- 7 October 2015  
*LUNCHTIME LECTURE*  
Linnaeus at Work  
**Dr Isabelle Charmantier**

- 15 October 2015  
*EVENING MEETING*  
Evolution from Beyond Genetics?  
**Dr Ovidiu Paun**
- 19 October 2015  
*EVENING MEETING*  
The 2015 Darwin Lecture: Science and Medicine  
**Professor Sir John Bell FRS**  
*Hosted jointly with The Royal Society of Medicine*
- 4 November 2015  
*LUNCHTIME LECTURE*  
What's Eating You?  
**Eileen Harris**
- 4 November 2015  
*BOOK EVENT*  
James Sowerby: the Enlightenment's Natural Historian  
**Professor Paul Henderson CBE FLS**
- 13 October 2015  
*STUDENT LECTURE*  
Project Coral  
**Jamie Craggs**
- 16–20 November 2015  
*EXHIBITION AND TOURS*  
Explore Your Archive: Natural History on Record  
**Led by Dr Isabelle Charmantier**
- 19 November 2015  
*EVENING MEETING*  
Darwin's Ark: Should Evolutionary History Inform Species Conservation?  
**Dr Paul Jepson FLS, Dr Nisha Owen, Dr Colin Clubbe FLS and John Frizell**  
*Organised in association with the London Evolutionary Research Network (LERN)*
- 27 November 2015  
*IRENE MANTON LECTURE*  
Tripping the Light Fantastic: Uncovering the secrets of plant cell dynamics  
**Dr Imogen Sparkes**  
*Organised jointly with the University of Hull, Professor Roland Ennos*
- 2 December 2015  
*LUNCHTIME LECTURE*  
The King of Puddings: The Story of the Botanical Ingredients of the Traditional Christmas Pudding  
**Angela Dixon**
- 2 December 2015  
*FOUNDER'S DAY*  
The Lord Treasurer of Botany  
**Tom Kennett**
- 17 December 2015  
*CHRISTMAS LECTURE*  
Pearls and Unicorns—Myth and Magic in Jewellery  
**Geoffrey Munn OBE FLS**
- March, April, May,  
June, Oct, Nov,  
Dec 2015  
*TOURS*  
Linnean Society Treasures Tours  
**Led by Elaine Charwat MSc, MCLIP**



*Birkbeck / Linnean Society Lecture Series 2015*

**'What do we know about the status of our wildlife?'**

9 October 2015	The good, the bad and the ugly in UK Biodiversity monitoring <b>Dr Richard Gregory</b>
16 October 2015	Stories from London: the role of local records centres <b>Maria Longley</b>
23 October 2015	The State of Britain's Moths <b>Richard Fox</b>
30 October 2015	The Biological Records Centre: valuing wildlife observations in a changing world <b>Professor Helen Roy</b>
6 November 2015	Citizen Science in Action at the Open Air Laboratories (OPAL) <b>Dr David Slawson and Dr Poppy Lakeman Fraser</b>
13 November 2015	Monitoring hoverflies with digital photographs <b>Roger Morris</b>



## Appendix 2

### *Fellows, Associates and Students Elected 2015*

#### **Fellows Elected 2015:**

Dr Mac Alford	Mrs Jacqueline Gooding
Mrs Fiona Battle	Mr Joseph Gray
Ms Caroline Boisset	Professor Howard Griffiths
Mr Temitope Borokini	Dr John Grimshaw
Mr Thomas Boyd	Dr Vivek Kumar Gupta
Mr Francis Buckle	Mr Richard Haine
Professor Roger Butlin	Mr Cayce Harburg
Dr James Byng	Dr Amanda Hardy
Mr Roderick Cameron	Professor Janey Henderson
Mr Derek Chappell	Mr Jonathan Heywood
Mr Clive Chatters	Ms Emma Hoch-Schneider
Mr Chukwuma Chukwudi	Mr William E Hogans
Mr James Cooper	Mr William Hooker
Mr Benjamin Cresswell	Dr Jonathan Hyde
Mr Richard Crompton	Ms Nancy Irwin
Dr Peter Csontos	Mr Mark James
Dr Victoria Dalglish	Dr Zerina Johanson
Dr Avijit Datta	Mr Gregory Jones
Dr Linda Davies	Dr Ingrid Jüttner
Viscount Terence Devenport	Mr Martyn Kempson
Professor Keith Dobney	Dr Robert Kennedy
Ms Linda Dolata	Dr Peter Kevan
Dr Susan Douglas	Professor Daniel Kevles
Dr Wolf Eiserhardt	Dr Marthe Kiley-Worthington
Mrs Ianthe Exall	Professor David Kipling
Ms Sarah Finney	Dr Mairi Knight
Mr Stephen Foote	Dr Dimitrios Koureas
Professor Christine Foyer	Dr Shawn Elizabeth Krosnick
Ms Gemma Galbraith	Dr Kenny Kuchta
Mrs Maria Gardfjell	Dr Michael Kuhlmann
Dr Alberto Gómez-Gutiérrez	Mr Andy James Lain
	Dr Isabel Larridon

Ms Sophie Leyuil  
Dr Crispin Little  
Mr Geoff Lockwood  
Dr Jeffrey Lovich  
Dr Robert Lüking  
Mr Kevin Lynch  
Mr James MacLaine  
Ms Kirsten Marie  
Mr Peter Marren  
Ms Claire McDermott  
Mr Andrew Mcindoe  
Mr John Patrick McQuillan  
Ms Anna Michaels  
Dr Jonathan Millett  
Dr Amita Mohan  
Professor Paul Moon  
Ms Sal Moore  
Ms Mercy Jane Morris  
Dr David Noakes  
Mr George Isaac Nodza  
Dr Ossie Nokelainen  
Mr Alan Orange  
Ms Aramide Oshingboye  
Professor Mark Otten  
Mr Gregory Evans  
Dr Heather Pardoe  
Mr Mark Parfitt  
Mr Stephen Parker  
Dr Harry Parnaby  
Ms Samantha Pickles  
Mrs Janet Pope  
Professor Andy Purvis  
Dr Aijaz Ahmad Qureshi  
Professor Pramod Ramteke  
Dr Martin Read  
Professor Michael Reiss

Dr Stephanie Rudgard-Redsell  
Dr Robert Ryan  
Dr Anders Sanchez Barfod  
Dr Gisela Sancho  
Mrs Elaine Searle  
Mr David Seldon  
Dr Susan Shawcross  
Mr Stuart Shilson  
Dr Yih Chau Soh  
Dr Sandie Sowler  
Mr Keith Spurgin  
Ms Sarah Stewart  
Ms Louise Summers  
Dr Ray Tangney  
Dr Robert Tansey  
Dr Flavio Tarquini  
Mr David Tatham  
Mr Torsten Thiele  
Mr Jesse Timberlake  
Dr Anke Timmermann  
Professor Karim Vahed  
Mr Jean-Paul Van Weert  
HE Heidi Venamore  
Dr Lennart Verhagen  
Ms Victoria Wakefield  
Dr Deborah Wall-Palmer  
Mr Alexander Walster  
Ms Ceri Watkins  
Dr George Weiblen  
Ms Monica Wilde  
Ms Sulamith Wildgoose  
Mr Gary Williams  
Dr Sophie Williams  
Mr Jason Williams-James  
Mr Tony Wilson-Bligh  
Ms Patricia Wolseley

**Associates Elected 2015:**

Mr Steven Dodsworth  
Mr Jacob Hill

**Student Associates Elected 2015:**

Mr Nathaniel Legall  
Mr Ernesto Sanz-Sancho  
Mr Harry Williams



*Deaths reported to Council in 2015*

Dr Roger Bamber  
Professor Martin Brasier  
Mr Geoffrey Cockett  
Dr Paul Cornelius  
Mr Douglas Robert Ellerey  
Dr David Galloway  
Dr Brian Oliver Cordery Gardiner  
Ms Mary Griffin  
Dr Frederick Hall  
Dr David Harding  
Dr David Harrison  
Mr Krister Ljugqvist  
Professor Loutfy Boulos  
Dr John Lund

Dr Peter Macpherson  
Dr Samuel McDowell  
Professor Niels Kristensen  
Professor John Packham  
Mr Richard Petit  
Ms Felicity Powell  
Professor James Reveal  
Mr Thomas Reynolds  
Mr John Langford Stacey  
Dr Sophia Stepanjants  
Professor Jean-Jacques Symoens  
Professor John Williams  
Dr Robert Wootton



## Appendix 3

### *Officers and Council*

#### **President** (from May 2015)

Professor Paul Brakefield FRS

#### **Vice-Presidents**

Until 23 May

Professor Paul Brakefield FRS

Dr John David

Professor Mark Chase FRS

Dr Anjali Goswami

From 23 May

Professor Juliet Brodie

Dr Malcolm Scoble

Professor Mark Seaward

Professor Max Telford

#### **Treasurer** (1995)

Professor Gren LI Lucas OBE

#### **Treasurer-elect**

Mrs Deborah Wright

#### **Secretaries**

*Scientific Secretary* (2013)

Professor Simon Hiscock

*Scientific Secretary* (2009)

Dr Malcolm Scoble

*Editorial Secretary* (2012)

Professor Mark Chase FRS

*Collections Secretary* (2013)

Dr John David

*Executive Secretary* (2011)

Dr Elizabeth Rollinson

#### **Council**

*The President, Treasurer, Secretaries and:*

- Ms Rosie Atkins

+ Dr Francis Brearley

~ Dr Janet Cubey

~ Dr Anjali Goswami

+ Professor Max Telford

+ Ms Laura D'Arcy

\* Professor Anthony Campbell

~ Dr Pat Morris MBE

- Dr Michael Fay

\* Professor Mark Seaward

- Dr Zerina Johanson

~ Professor Thomas Richards

- Professor Juliet Brodie

\* Dr Michael Wilson

- Dr Paul Bates

+ Professor Jeffrey Duckett

~ Dr Sarah Whild

~ Retired May 2015

\* Due to retire May 2016

+ Due to retire May 2017

- Due to retire May 2018

The Editors are co-opted to Council.



## Appendix 4

### *Curators, Editors and Committees 2014–15*

#### **Curators**

Fish, Shells & General Zoology  
Insects  
Plants  
Artefacts

Ms Kathie Way (1994)  
Dr Mike G Fitton (1976)  
Dr Mark Spencer (2013)  
Mr Glenn Benson (from June 2014)

#### **Editors**

*Biological Journal*  
*Botanical Journal*  
*Zoological Journal*

Synopses Series

*The Linnean*

Reviews

Professor John A Allen (1997)  
Dr Mike Fay, RBGK (2008)  
Dr Peter J Hayward (2007–Sept 2015)  
Dr Louise Allcock (Sept 2015)  
Dr John H Crothers (1991) &  
Dr Peter J Hayward (2002)  
Ms Gina Douglas (2013)  
Ms Leonie Berwick (2013)  
Dr Pat Morris (2011)

#### **Committee Chairs**

Editorial  
Finance  
Grants  
Library and Collections  
Medals and Awards  
Programmes  
Education

The Editorial Secretary (e.o.)  
The Treasurer (e.o.)  
The President (e.o.)  
The Collections Secretary (e.o.)  
The President (e.o.)  
The Scientific Secretary (e.o.)  
The Scientific Secretary (e.o.)

#### **Committees**

##### **+Collections Committee**

Dr John David, RHS (Chairman 2013)  
The Curators  
Mrs Susan Gove (2001)  
\*Mr John Collins (1990)  
\*Ms Gillian Furlong, UCL (2006)

The Librarian (e.o.)  
The Deputy Librarian  
Dr D J Nicholas Hind, RBGK (1995)  
Mr Chris Mills, RBGK (2006)  
Ms Andrea Hart, NHM (2015)

### +Editorial Committee

The Editorial Secretary (e.o.)  
The Editors (e.o.)  
\*Dr Rebecca A Farley-Brown (2001)

\*Ms Rosie Trice, Wiley (2013)  
Ms Vicky Johnson, Wiley (2013)

### +Programmes Committee

The Scientific Secretaries (e.o.)  
Mr Andrew Sheppy (1994)  
Dr William Baker (2013)  
Dr Anjali Goswami (2013)  
Dr Victoria Herridge (2014)

Mr Dave Dawson (2013)  
Dr Alex Monro (2013)  
Professor Dianne Edwards CBE FRS (2015)  
The Specialist Group Organisers by invitation

### +Finance Committee

The Treasurer (e.o.)  
Mr Giles Coode-Adams (2001)  
Mr Edward Banks (2009)

Mr John Beswick (2009)  
Mr Edward Hoare (1998)  
Dr N Keith Maybury (2008)

### +Medals and Awards Committee

The President (e.o.)  
The Vice-Presidents (e.o.)  
Members of Council (present at January Council Meeting)

### +Taxonomy and Systematics Committee

Professor David Cutler (Chairman 2010)  
\*Professor Lynne Boddy, Univ. Cardiff (2010)  
Dr Paul Cannon, RBGK (2010)  
\*Dr Veronica Edmonds-Brown, Univ. Herts (2010)  
Professor Simon Hiscock, Univ. Oxford (2010)  
Mr Trevor James, NFBK (2010)  
Mr David Norton, NHM (2012)  
Professor Geoffrey Boxshall FRS, NHM (2012)  
Dr Mark Watson, RBG Edinburgh (2012)  
Mr Paolo Viscardi, Horniman Museum-NatSCA (2012)  
Mr Darren Mann, Oxford Univ. Mus. NH. (2010)  
Dr Graham Oliver, Nat. Mus. Wales (2010)  
\*Dr Keith Porter, Natural England (2010)  
\*Ms Cheryl Pilbeam, BES (2013)  
Ms Sue Townsend, FSC (2012)

### +Education Committee

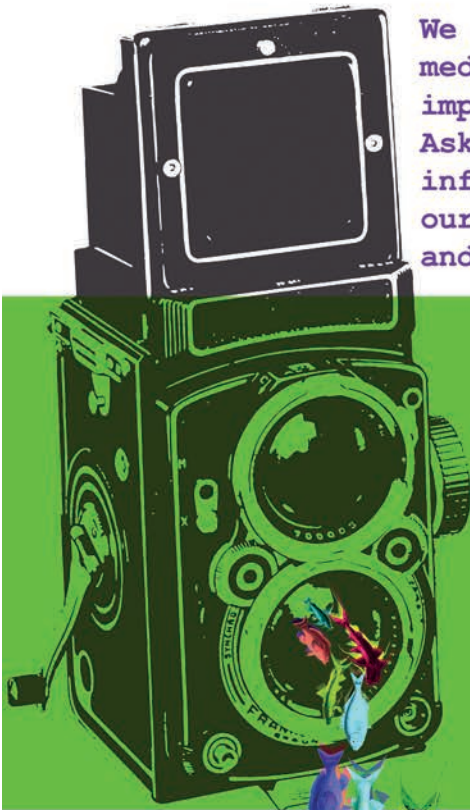
Professor Simon Hiscock (Chairman)  
The Education Officer  
The Executive Secretary  
Professor Beverley Glover, Cambridge Botanic Garden (2013)  
Dr Jane Taylor, Lancaster University (2013)  
Martin Lawrence, NHM (2014)  
Geoff Lockwood (independent school-master) (2013)  
Gay Coley, RGB Kew (2013)  
Sarah Thomas, ZSL (2015)  
Suzie Kelpie, RBGE (2015)

+The Officers are *ex officio* (e.o.) members; \* Not a Fellow of the Society

## *Linnean Society Staff*

Executive Secretary	<b>Dr Elizabeth Rollinson (2011)</b>
Financial Controller & Membership Officer	<b>Mr Priya Nithianandan (1991)</b>
Buildings & Office Manager	<b>Ms Victoria Smith (2006)</b>
Room Hire Manager & Membership Assistant	<b>Mr Tom Helps (2010–July 2015)</b> <b>Ms Tatiana Franco (July 2015)</b>
Communications & Events Manager	<b>Mr Tom Simpson (2014–Sept 2015)</b> <b>Ms Alicia Fernandez (Sept 2015)</b>
Librarian	<b>Mrs Lynda Brooks (2005)</b>
Deputy Librarian & Linnaeus Link Administrator	<b>Ms Elaine Charwat (2011)</b>
Digitisation Project Manager	<b>Ms Andrea Deneau (2011– July 2015)</b>
Biographer of James Edward Smith	<b>Mr Tom Kennett (2010– Feb 2015)</b>
Conservator	<b>Ms Janet Ashdown (2002)</b>
Project Conservator	<b>Ms Helen Cowdy (2012–Sept 2015)</b>
Project Conservator	<b>Ms Naomi Mitamura (2014–May 2015)</b>
Special Publications Manager	<b>Ms Leonie Berwick (2007)</b>
Education Officer	<b>Ms Hazel Leeper (2012)</b>
Education Resources Design Coordinator	<b>Ms Mair Shepherd (2014–March 2015)</b>
Education Project Officer	<b>Mr Ross Ziegelmeier (May 2015)</b>
Manuscripts Specialist	<b>Dr Isabelle Charmantier (2013–Oct 2015)</b>
Honorary Archivist	<b>Ms Gina Douglas (2008)</b>
Botanical Journal Assistant	<b>Mr Hassan Rankou (2012)</b>

# BioMedia Meltdown Competition



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JOHN LYON'S CHARITY



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The Linnean Society of London is proud to announce the upcoming publication of *The Lord Treasurer of Botany: Sir James Edward Smith and the Linnaean Collections*—the first definitive biographical work on the Society's founder, Sir James Edward Smith (1759–1828).

Follow Smith from his beginnings as a textile merchant's son in 18th-century Norwich, to his becoming a focal point for the study of botany and natural history in not only Great Britain but Europe as well.

Using Smith's letters, books, manuscripts and personal diary, Archivist Tom Kennett gives us an honest portrayal of Smith, from his unrealised medical career, to his brushes with royalty, to his close allegiances and rivalries with other naturalists. Rich in detail, we are offered an insight into the inner workings of a man who, with the fame brought to him by the purchase of the Linnaean collections, helped to change the way the study of natural history was perceived by the public, particularly women.

Beautifully illustrated, *The Lord Treasurer of Botany* is due to be published in **MAY 2016**, and is set to become the definitive work on this major, and under-appreciated, player in the field of natural history. Email [info@linnean.org](mailto:info@linnean.org) or keep an eye on the Society's website for more details: [www.linnean.org](http://www.linnean.org)



“His conduct was at all times eminently liberal, opening the Linnaean Herbarium's treasures, without reserve, to men of every rank and station, and of every clime.”



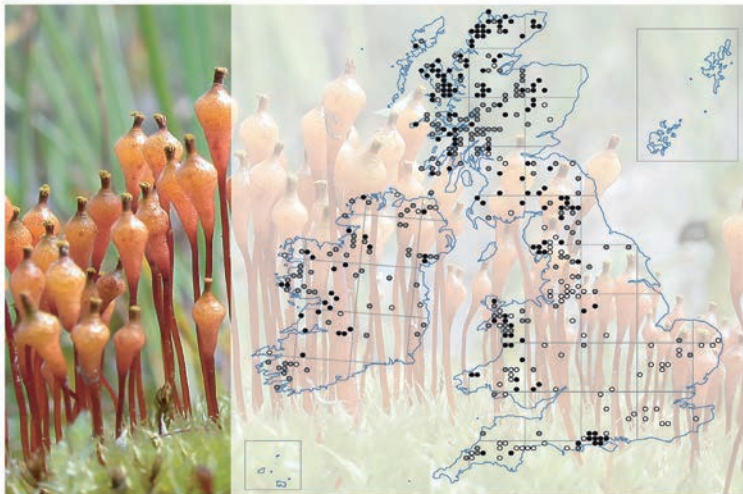


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# BIOLOGICAL

## Journal of the Linnean Society



JULY 2015 • VOLUME 115 • NUMBER 3 • ISSN 0024-4066

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# @LinneanSociety

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@Drypetes

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